# MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

18 SEPTEMBER 1981

## Steadfastness and Confrontation Front

JANA reported the opening in Benghazi, Libya, of the fifth steadfastness and confrontation front conference on 17 September. The opening session was devoted to solidarity with Libya against "the aggression of U.S. imperialism against Libyan territorial waters" and was attended by Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid, PDRY Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and PLO Executive Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, as well as Iranian Foreign Minister Hoseyn Musavi. Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland radio later reported that in an address presented at the conference, Libyan leader Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi called the meeting a "practical answer" to U.S. aggression against Libya in the Gulf of Sidra, adding that while preparations for the conference were underway, the region had entered a new and "extremely grave" stage as a result of strengthened U.S.-Israeli ties. These ties signify, Al-Qadhdhafi said, that Arabs are no longer pitted just against an Israel that enjoys U.S. support but that they face the United States directly. Discussing international aspects of the Middle East conflict, he said the U.S.-USSR confrontation is intensified by Israel's provision of occupied Arab territories as an advance base to the Americans for their opposition to the USSR, adding that this jeopardizes not only peace in the region but world peace, too.

## Syria

Damascus radio reported that Defense Minister Gen Mustafa Talas met in Moscow with Soviet Defense Minister Dmitriy Ustinov on 16 and 17 September.

## Lebanon

Beirut radio reported that a car bomb exploded in the As-Sullum area of southern Beirut early on 18 September, killing two persons and injuring several others. Earlier, the clandestine Voice of Palestine radio said the 17 September Sidon explosion had killed more than 25 people and had wounded around 100 others. While Voice of Lebanon radio noted that a Fatah Colonel was killed in the blast, the Voice of Palestine said most of the casualties were civilians in the morning rush hour and reported that another explosive charge was discovered and dismantled at the northern entrance of Sidon soon afterwards. It said the other reported explosion in a Shikka cement factory occurred at the same time as the Sidon blast. The radio quoted a Palestinian-Lebanese joint forces military spokesman as charging Israel with responsibility for the Sidon explosion, describing it as part of Israel's continuing "war of annihilation" against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples and an attempt to break their steadfastness and cohesion with the Palestinian resistance and the Lebanese national movement. The radio also called on Palestinians and Lebanese leftists to be alert to further plots by Israel and its agents in Lebanon. Meanwhile, Voice of Lebanon radio cited a Lebanese forces command spokesman as condemning the Sidon and Shikka explosions.

## Saudi Arabia

Defense Minister on AWACS, Arms--Defense and Aviation Minister Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz said in remarks reported by SPA that Saudi Arabia's relations with the United States do not depend on one deal. However, he affirmed that if its request for AWACS aircraft is not met, the kingdom will "go to any source." Offering no comment on the possible purchase of British-made Nimrod aircraft as an alternative to AWACS on the grounds that it is against Saudi Arabia's interest to discuss the matter publicly until it knows "all the details," Sultan noted that the six Gulf Cooperation Council countries are studying the idea of establishing their own armament industries.

Fahd Visit--According to Riyadh radio, Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz arrived in London and will meet with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher on 18 September.

## Egypt

Expulsion of Attache in Moscow--TASS, citing a USSR Foreign Ministry statement, reported that the Soviet Union has ordered the Egyptian military attache and his staff in Moscow to leave the country within 7 days because of the poor state of relations between the USSR and Egypt stemming from "absurd" Egyptian allegations that Soviet officials in Egypt have had a hand in that country's deteriorating political situation. However, AL-AHRAM, cited by MENA, said that the attache could not have been expelled as Egypt had already decided to abolish the military office in Moscow.

Departure of Soviet Envoy--MENA noted the departure from Egypt of former Soviet Ambassador Vladimir Polyakov. He was accompanied by six other Soviet diplomats declared personae non gratae and two journalists deported for anti-Egyptian activities.

Sedition Investigations--Cairo radio, citing the Egyptian press, said Socialist Public Prosecutor 'Abd al-Qadir Ahmad 'Ali has decided that investigations into those held in custody for sectarian sedition, starting 19 September, should begin with examination of 15 Muslim and Christian religious figures, one of whom will be 'Umar at-Tilmisani, Muslim Brotherhood leader and editor of AD-DA'WAH magazine.

## Iran

In a statement broadcast by Tehran radio, the Revolution Prosecutor General's Office announced that 19 opposition group members were executed in Evin prison. The list of those found guilty of "waging war against God" included nine Mojahedin-e Khalq guerrillas and six members of Peykar. Tehran radio also reported that security officials killed two Mojahedin and captured two others during a shoot-out in the capital. According to another radio report, revolution guards in Kordestan "cleansed" three villages of rebels. Meanwhile, AFP cited ETTELA'AT as reporting that three government supporters were killed when motorcyclists threw a grenade at a Tehran house.

## Iran-Iraq Conflict

An Iraqi Armed Forces communique, broadcast by Baghdad radio, claimed that Iraqi fighter planes downed two Iranian aircraft over Iranian territory in the northern battlefront. Tehran radio mentioned no such incident but asserted that Iranian forces repulsed an Iraqi offensive in the Sumar area, forcing their opponents to retreat.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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MIDEAST MUSLIM LEADERS SPEAK AT SULUQ CEREMONY

Syrian President's Address

LD162143 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 1825 GMT 16 Sep 81

[Speech by Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad at ceremony in Suluq marking 50th anniversary of the martyrdom of 'Umar al-Mukhtar--live]

[Excerpt] What are we Arabs facing, among the plots hatched against us? A racist Zionist movement, spread throughout the world, calling for a racist ideology the like of which mankind has never seen before. This movement is mobilizing its material and moral resources to combat our nation. Israel wants to give substance to its ideology, to impose its ideology on our Arab land and against our Arab people. [slogans from audience hailing 1 September Revolution] Moreover, the United States, a superpower, is sponsoring this racist movement by words and deeds, supplying it with equipment, weapons and money. [chants from audience] It is fully sponsoring this racist Zionist movement, supplying it with money and arms. It also provides unlimited political guarantees in order to enable it to impose its ideology and succeed in its acts.

Recently brothers, the United States has moved to a new and serious phase in its dealings with this racist movement, through Israel, the base of this movement. It has done so through the merger deal they call strategic cooperation. The United States has not been content with what it has been doing for many years; it is not content with what it has been giving Israel for many years: Large quantities of the most sophisticated weapons. It is not content with the $3 billion it gives Israel annually. It is not content with the political support and guarantees it gives to any Israeli action, even if it means confronting international opinion. The United States is not content with all this and recently it moved to a grave situation with grave consequences. Through the Reagan-Begin accord it has moved into a situation in which the United States itself is in direct confrontation with us Arabs. [audience chants anti-American slogans]

Brothers, the United States has continuously given proof of its hostility toward our Arab nation and our causes. Today it has given further categorical proof of its decisive enmity to our Arab nation, through the Reagan-Begin accord which puts U.S. forces and U.S. weapons in direct confrontation with us, through their presence as forces and as arsenals in the land of Palestine beside the Israeli forces.

This is a grave matter of which we must be aware. This accord, this merger deal, as I said earlier, seeks to cement the Israeli aggression; to continue the Israeli occupation of our Arab territory; to continue the homelessness of the Arab masses from Palestine and the vicinity. It also seeks to help Israel achieve the power to expand further and occupy more land in the future. It also naturally seeks to block the path to any possibility of a just solution or a just peace in this region.

However, the United States is wrong to think we will yield to these attempts of oppression which it is plotting against our Arab nation. Through its actions--its latest step and latest agreement with Israel--the United States will achieve only the creation of explosive contact lines in this region, which could be the most dangerous contact lines in the world today, with all the dangers this could entail.

The United States must realize that we will not yield to its plans. The United States must realize that we will not yield to the plans of capitulation that it is trying to impose on our Arab nation; that we are stronger than all the capitulation attempts it is weaving regardless of what means and (?forces) it makes available for them and regardless of the methods it uses. [applause]

The United States must come to realize that the Arabs will adapt their conditions in a manner that will enable them to defend themselves, to defend efficiently their fate and their future. We Arabs are determined to defend our principles, our pride and our rights and are determined to achieve victory, God willing. [applause]

Brothers, as 'Umar al-Mukhtar did, and in the spirit in which 'Umar al-Mukhtar struggled, we struggle and will continue our struggle until we defeat all the plans and methods of neocolonialism just as Umar al-Mukhtar, his spirit and his martyr comrades in Libya and the Arab homeland and the Arab nation defeated old colonialism with all its plans, attempts and methods. The peace of God be with you.

## Algerian President's Pledges

LD162223 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 1851 GMT 16 Sep 81

["Speech by Algerian President Chadli Benjedid at ceremony in Suluq marking 50th anniversary of the martyrdom of 'Umar al-Mukhtar--live]

[Excerpts] This occasion marks a new era as far as we are concerned and as far as all the mojahedin and strugglers against colonialism and imperialism are concerned. It is an era of solidarity, a new pledge among all of us to continue on the same path and the same course in fighting racism, reaction and colonialism. We are marching on this path, the long path of struggle; colonialism is massing its [word indistinct] against the Arab nation, in particular against the progressive people who are struggling for their dignity, freedom, pride and independence. We (?must mobilize) all resources, because today the battle is one of destiny. It is a battle between us and colonialism; a cultural battle in the first place.

Today the Arab people are independent but neocolonialism exists in our Arab world. The Arab nation and the Arab peoples should rise from their long sleep and fight colonialism, imperialism and reaction so that we can rise to the level of the ambition of our martyrs who fell for the dignity and for the [word indistinct] of the Arab nation.

We shall not be independent in our Arab world as long as our people in Palestine are being pressed, killed and plundered. The message has not been fulfilled yet; we still have a responsibility to liberate our people in usurped Palestine. From socialist Libya we say: We are with you, heroic people of Palestine; we are on your side; we sacrifice for your sake [word indistinct] of our Arab nation.

We renew our pledge here before the remains of the great leader struggler 'Umar al-Mukhtar that we shall march on the road as you did. You have shown us the right path to obtain and wrest our rights, our independence and our dignity.

Brothers, we are here with you to convey the greetings of ths struggling Algerian people to their brothers, the struggling Libyan people. We say to you: We are on your side for better or for worse. [applause] We said this to imperialism before the aggression that took place against Libya. We said that in the event of any aggression against Libya, Algeria would intervene not only [word indistinct] but militarily. We said that to the imperialist aggressors even before the aggression took place. We told all the countries neighboring the Mediterranean about Algeria's attitude toward our people in Libya. We are in solidarity, since history demands that whether we succeed or fail [words indistinct] the responsibility lies with the leaders. The popular masses [words indistinct] their leaders in the direction of joint action, of serious action to repel challenges, colonialism and imperialism. The road is long and demands solidarity and actual [word indistinct] of our Arab nation to defend dignity, sovereignty and our freedom. Finally, on this occasion, I thank you for your warm welcome. We consider ourselves at home and with our Arab people; we hope to meet on other occasions. The peace of God be with you.

## PDRY Leader's Speech

LD162246 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 1901 GMT 16 Sep 81

[Speech by PDRY leader 'Ali Nasir Muhammad at ceremony in Suluq marking 50th anniversary of martyrdom of 'Umar al-Mukhtar--live]

[Excerpt] Brothers, the Yemeni revolution and the 1 September Revolution are both today standing firmly for stepping up the Arab struggle, supporting the Arab masses and achieving the Arab national liberation movement [words indistinct]. We in the PDRY will remain faithful to the struggle of the Yemeni and Libyan revolutions. We shall not (?bargain) over their defense or the struggle to reach their goals, particularly the achievement of Yemeni unity. [applause and chants by audience] This Yemeni unity constitutes a vital step, a basic step on the road to all-Arab unity. [applause] We will also (?faithfully) stand by our brothers, the leaders of the 1 September Revolution, foremost of whom is the great leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi [applause] [words indistinct], a common all-Arab struggle against imperialism, Zionism and reaction.

At the same time, brothers, we will continue to consolidate the fighting strategic alliance between the struggle of the Arab nation and the struggle of the peoples for liberation and socialism. We will continue our strategic alliance with the great Soviet Union, (?the friends) of our Arab nation, and the supporter of our just Arab cause. We will continue our alliance with socialist Ethiopia with which our country and Libya have signed a treaty of friendship and cooperation, in order to strengthen and step up the common struggle against U.S. (?imperialism), Zionism and racism [words indistinct]. We will not stand idly by if the friendly Libyan people are subjected to imperialist and reactionary aggression. [applause] The PDRY will remain a firm citadel for steadfastness and confrontation (?of all the Arabs) against aggressive plots and the [words indistinct] of U.S. imperialism.

## Iranian Minister's Address

LD162316 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 1926 GMT 16 Sep 81

[Speech by Iranian Foreign Minister Hoseyn Musavi at the Suluq ceremony marking the 50th anniversary of martyrdom of 'Umar al-Mukhtar--live in Persian with phrase-by-phrase translation into Arabic]

[Excerpt] As I stand here and see these holy relics I remember the 100,000 martyrs who fell in Iran to realize the objectives of (?man), for the sake of [word indistinct] and for the sake of mankind. They fell as martyrs in their holy struggle against the American regime of the deposed shah. [applause followed by revolutionary slogans]

The shedding of such holy blood throughout the Islamic world and the world of the meek shows that imperialism and Zionism have opened an extensive front against us everywhere. It also shows that we are dutybound to open an extensive front in the struggle against imperialism and Zionism all over the world, and to make use of all our potentials and forces to deal a violent blow to imperialism and Zionism. [applause]

I can see a close link between the dirty moves of U.S. imperialism off the Libyan shores, the strategic union between Israel and the United States, the continuous aggressions by U.S. imperialism against the Isalmic Republic of Iran, Fahd's recent plan, As-Sadat's plans and treacherous Camp David. I can see a close link between all these conspiracies. For this reason, when we see imperialism preparing itself--and it is in fact prepared--to deal a blow to us strugglers everywhere, we must then endeavor to secure a maximum of agreement and union among the Islamic nations. Failing this, we will lose the battle in the imperialist counterattack. [applause]

The Islamic revolution in Iran emerged victorious after holding high the slogan of the liberation of Palestine and the defense of Palestinian sanctities. All our efforts are directed toward the liberation of Palestine and the holy and dear Jerusalem. The liberation of Palestine is one of the basic demands of our Islamic people in Iran. The liberation of Palestine is possible and can be secured only if we extend our front, if we extend out struggle against imperialism all over the world. The liberation of Palestine will be realized only with the cohesion of our forces everywhere. For this reason we aid and support any movement, any move that arises against imperialism and Zionism in any Islamic country and anywhere in the world of the meek. For this reason and in view of all this, we aid and support the Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation, [applause] because we see it as a front that is always eager to fight imperialism and to foil treacherous schemes such as the Camp David scheme.

I am not going to allow myself to speak too long and say more. I would have liked to speak about the 74 martyrs who fell in the land of Islamic Iran following conspiracies hatched by U.S. agents. I would have liked to speak about these valiant martyrs who were--most of whom were--like 'Umar al-Mukhtar, teachers of the Koran, jihad and struggle. God willing, I will speak to you about these martyrs on another occasion.

To conclude, I would like to convey the message of the Islamic Iranian people, a message full of love, friendship and Islamic fraternity; a message from this friendly people to you revolutionary people, people in revolt in Libya. [applause] I would like to say: I hope you accept these warm fraternal greetings, because Muslims everywhere are awaiting union and [word indistinct] between all the Muslim peoples and the meek of the world. [applause]

## Al-Qadhdhafi Speech

NC170805 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 17 Sep 81

[Excerpts] The revolution leader [Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi] has delivered a speech in the great popular celebrations marking the 50th anniversary of 'Umar al-Mukhtar's martyrdom. At the outset of the speech, he extended greetings to the brother leaders of the Confrontation and Steadfastness Front, who [word indistinct] the summit meeting of the Front on this occasion. He stressed that the Libyan men and women will not forget this hour in which the brother leaders shared their celebration of this occasion. He said: Our words cannot express our appreciation and gratitude for there brothers. He expressed his boundless gratitude and appreciation for the participation, which is considered an appreciation of all the Libyan people and the (?regime). Their attendance signifies that they are faithful to the sacrifices of our nation which offered hundreds of thousands of martyrs. Algeria offered more than a million martyrs. Palestine has offered and will continue to ofier throngs of martyrs. Iran also offered and is offering martyrs. Syria made great sacrifices on every inch on the Golan Heights and is continuing to make further sacrifices. In Aden, blood drenched the soil and martyrs fell in the liberation war against British colonizer.

The leader of the revolution said that 'Umar al-Mukhtar is not a martyr of the (?Libyan people) but an Arab martyr whose 50th anniversary is celebrated by the living Arab nation and masses. He said: Those who did not attend with us the confrontation and steadfastness [word indistinct] are unable to remain steadfast in the face of aggression and confront it. He stressed that this is the steadfastness of the living regimes of the Arab nation, which reject humiliation [several words indistinct].

The leader of the revolution pointed out that the participation here by the Iranian foreign minister expresses the Islamic revolution in Iran, because 'Umar al-Mukhtar is not only a martyr of the Arab nation but of the Islamic nation for the sake of freedom and (?progress). He said that the Arab participation in this occasion expresses Arab unity, because the Arab people are one and the Arab homeland is one.

The leader of the revolution further said: At a time when the living forces of the Arab nation are celebrating its martyrs, As-Sadat is degrading the thousands of the martyrs of the Egyptian people. He also belittled the great sacrifices of the Egyptian people before the whole world [words indistinct] in Sinai and in Palestine [words indistinct].

5TH CONFRONTATION FRONT CONFERENCE BEGINS

LD171945 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1930 GMT 17 Sep 81

[Text] Benghazi, 17 Sep (JANA)--The fifth conference of the National Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation began its work here tonight. The opening session of the conference, devoted to solidarity with the Libyan people against the aggression of U.S. imperialism against Libyan territorial waters, was attended by the brother leader of the revolution, President Hafiz al-Asad, president of Syria; President Chadli Bendjedid, president of Algeria and secretary general of the FLN Party; President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, PDRY president, secretary general of the YSP and prime minister; and Brother Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee. The opening session was also attended by Hoseyn Musavi, Iranian foreign minister; and the delegation accompanying the leaders of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front.

Al-Qadhdhafi Addresses Front

LD180158 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 2315 GMT 17 Sep 81

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution addressed the opening session of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front conference at which he said: We welcome the brother leaders of the National Steadfastness and Confrontation Front; we also welcome the Iranian foreign minister who is present as a guest; and we express our appreciation to the brother leaders of the National Steadfastness and Confrontation Front who decided to convene this meeting after the blatant U.S. military aggression against the Gulf of Sidra, against the Libyan people, its territories and territorial waters. This meeting constitutes a practical answer to this aggression in addition to the political and practical replies made by the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front since the act of aggression.

This consolidates the position of the Libyan people in confronting the aggression which might be repeated; an aggression that the Libyan people have decided to confront with all the possible options at its disposal. The brother leader added that the Gulf of Sidra constituted an extremely sensitive zone as far as the Libyan people are concerned: It is in fact territorial waters in which all the sensitive and industrial zones are situated, along with the oil ports. It is also the rallying point of the oil pipelines from the oilfields. Reaching the Gulf of Sidra means reaching inside the guts of Libya; and as far as we are concerned, we will never allow anyone to get into the guts of Libya.

The brother leader also stressed that the Gulf of Sidra was a very sensitive security zone over which no concessions can be made; a zone that has no connection whatsoever with the international waters about which the United States had tried to mislead the world by claiming that Libya had extended its territorial waters to 200 miles. This is a lie; as a matter of fact, Libya still adheres to the international norms observed with regard to international waters. As for the Gulf of Sidra, it is as I said; and perpetrating aggression against it means open aggression against Libya.

The brother leader said: This conference held here in Benghazi is proof that we are united against this aggression. We greet you brothers, and greatly appreciate your decision to hold this meeting at this time in Libya for the second time. The brother leader added: At a time when preparations were being made for the convening of this conference, the region entered a new and extremely grave stage, a stage marked by the elevation of U.S.-Israeli relations to a very high level of danger.

It has now been decided that the Zionist base should offer protection to the U.S. 6th Fleet, which perpetrated the aggression against the Gulf Sidra. It was also decided that the occupied shores of Palestine should be opened to U.S. forces, and be regarded as if they were American shores. In addition, U.S. weapons are to be stockpiled in occupied Palestine so that they may be used by the U.S. Army during actual operations.

The brother leader added that this was a complete change in the situation previously prevailing in the Middle East. Instead of the struggle being, as it has been to date, Arab-Israeli--supported by the United States--it has now become a direct Arab-American struggle. In the past, at the international level, it was a struggle between the Soviet Union and the United States although, in fact, it was an Arab-Israeli struggle to a certain extent. However, it has now become an Israeli/U.S.-Soviet struggle despite the Arab side, as if the Arabs do not exist. The occupied territories have now become an advanced base for the United States in opposition to the Soviet Union.

The brother leader said that this is a grave move because it has first increased the confrontation between the two superpowers by involving the Israelis in this confrontation, and the occupied land has become an advanced base for the United States. This has jeopardized peace, the international peace and not just peace in the Middle East is in danger by the fact that the occupied land has become an American base. This means that the struggle now directly involves the superpowers in this region. Struggle between the superpowers means a threat to international peace, not just to Middle East peace.

On the other hand, this puts us in a direct confrontation with the United States--we the Arabs, and particularly the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front, which faces up to this aggression. This also turns the Israelis into, not only enemies of the Arabs, but enemies of the Soviet Union and the socialist community, as they have placed themselves in the U.S. and NATO camp. These are the new and extremely grave facts we shall be facing in this meeting; we will take advantage of their positive aspects, and tackle the negative ones.

The brother leader added: At any rate, the National Steadfastness and Confrontation Front does not conceal its position supporting the Islamic revolution in Iran, a revolution that had saved Iran and took Iran out of the zone of American influence; an Iran that was in the service of U.S. imperialism, an ally to Zionism and racism in Africa, an advanced base for America, and a grave zone of influence which had adversely affected all the policies of the peoples aspiring for freedom in the Middle East and the Near East. With the emergence of the Islamic revolution in Iran, this fraternal nation was liberated, and Iran was put on its true course, the Islamic course, its progressive liberation course.

We greet the martyrs of this revolution, and laud the free men of Iran who have brought Iran to the side of the Arab nation, and put it in a genuine confrontation with Zionism and imperialism. At the same time we express our deep regret to see a war declared between an Arab state and Iran, especially after the outbreak of the revolution in Iran. Our regret might have been to a lesser extent had such a war taken place during the shah's time, but it is regrettable to see this war take place during the revolution. We have individually and jointly expressed our regret. In this respect, Brother Yasir 'Arafat has played an important role in trying to end this fratricidal war and direct all the Arab, Iranian and progressive Muslim guns [words indistinct] to liberate (?Jerusalem), to liberate Palestine, and [words indistinct] the common enemy of the peoples aspiring for freedom.

But regrettably all these efforts have failed; we say it frankly. If there is any possibility to end this war, we do not hesitate to undertake such a task. We are interested to see in the end the triumph of the force hostile to colonialism, Zionism and reaction. We say this clearly: We stand by the force that, with us, will fight Israel, fight America, reaction and hegemony. This is the force with which we will stand.

## Iran's Foreign Minister Speaks

NC180819 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 18 Sep 81

[Text] In a speech [during the opening meeting of the Confrontation and Steadfastness Front leaders] Iranian Foreign Minister Hoseyn Musavi said: Since the early moments of the victory of the Islamic revolution in Iran, the Iranian people [several words indistinct] that express this fraternal relationship. We made the struggle against the United States (?launched) by Khomeyni [words indistinct] as a basic course of our foreign and domestic policies. We began the decisive struggle against any U.S. trend and supported all voices and forms of struggle against imperialism and Zionism.

Musavi further said: [Several words indistinct] and see that Sudan is resuming diplomatic relations with the Egyptian regime [words indistinct]. We support the Egyptian Arab people who are striving to get rid of this (?shaky) regime [words indistinct] to emerge from isolation [words indistinct].

Musavi added: The enemies and agents are scared of the triumph of Islam and awareness of Muslims in the world [words indistinct]. All the plots being engineered against the progressive forces in the area makes us feel that a (?hard) responsibility falls on our shoulders. The best way of confronting the enemies who have united against us is to have the millions of Muslims in the world move and rally around the unified Islamic front opposed to imperialism and Zionism. The [word indistinct] struggle that will eventually change the picture of the world must begin quickly, because all the [words indistinct] enslaved and deprived in the world are ready to wage this struggle against imperialism and Zionism. We must help them achieve this.

In conclusion, Musavi said. We have come here to announce our support and backing to the struggle of all members of the Confrontation and Steadfastness Front and to bless their refusal to surrender and kneel to the enemies' plots. We also announce that we will side with them in the confrontation with the Zionist occupier entity at any time.

## AL-ASAD CONFERS WITH PALESTINIAN LEADERS

JN172000 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 17 Sep 81

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received in the guest palace in Benghazi at 1745 today Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLA Executive Committee; Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department; 'Isam al-Qadi, secretary general of the Popular Liberation War Vanguards-as-sa'iqah forces; Ahmad Jibril, secretary general of the PFLP General Command; Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP]; Dr Samir Ghawshah, secretary general of the Palestinian Popular Struggle Front; Abu 'Ali Mustafa, assistant secretary general of the Palestinian Liberation Front 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, PLO official spokesman; Talal Naji, assistant secretary general of the PFLP General Command' Abu al'Abbas, assistant secretary general of the Palestinian Liberation Front; Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, DFLP assistant secretary general; Abu Mahir al-Yamani and Taysir Qub'ah, members of the PFLP Political Bureau; Taysir Khalid, member of the DFLP Political Bureau; and Sami Qandil, member of the Regional Command of the Ba'th Party Palestinian Organization.

'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Walid Hamdun, deputy prime minister for services affairs, attended the meeting.

The two sides reviewed the latest developments of the Palestinian issue and the plots being concocted by the Camp David partners, in addition to other subjects related to enhancing the Arab steadfastness and confrontation capability in facing and foiling these plots.

KUWAIT

FOREIGN MINISTER ON RELATIONS WITH U.S., USSR

LD151654 Kuwait KUNA in English 1148 GMT 15 Sep 81

[Text] London, 15 Sep (KUNA)--The chief Kuwaiti diplomat, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, deputy premier, foreign minister and acting minister of information, expressed Kuwait's policy of maintaining balanced relations between the two superpowers and stated that Kwuait does not support the Rapid Deployment Force.

Shaykh Sabah's views became clear on television here Monday night when Jonathan Dimbleby interviewed his excellency in his major series "The Eagle and the Bear."

The series started last week in dramatising the alarming attitudes of the Americans and the Russians towards each other. The first episode spotlighted the policies of Washington and Moscow.

In the second episode Dimbleby, the writer and presenter of the programme, went to the Arab Gulf where most of the free world's oil supply rests and where the closest American friend has been swept away, the programme said. Not far away, Russia is menacingly installed in Afghanistan-waiting to grab the oil--as some Western analysts say.

The United States has proposed a Rapid Deployment Force poised to defend her interests, the programme pointed out, and both super powers are locked in a naval arms race in the Indian Ocean.

Shaykh Sabah acted as the effective spokesman for the Arabian Gulf in the programme, which extensively explores the superpowers.

Other contributions included U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger.

Shaykh Sabah was asked what was his view of the American policy towards this area and in particular the Secretary of State for America Alexander Haig's view that somehow there should be a strategic consensus formed against the Soviet Union. Shaykh Sabah: "In fact the U.S. needs to have more understanding of the Arab region.... When we ask why there is no such understanding we always turn to the notion that the (?Zionist) lobby is (?very powerful) in the U.S. [words indistinct] greatly affects U.S. policy. "If we delve into the details we will find ourselves in prolonged arguments. "As for what Mr Haig said, I don't believe that we the Arabs need a strategic Arab action against the Soviet Union. Why? Well, why should we do anything against the USSR while the USSR did not do anything to harm us or against us in this region? From this standpoint we do not agree with Mr Haig on this matter.

Question: You don't feel that the Soviet Union is a threat to this area at all?

Answer: "We don't feel that the Soviet Union is a threat to this area at all? Never... never...."

Question: Why do you think the Americans are proposing the Rapid Deployment Force for this area and what is your view of the Rapid Deployment Force?

Answer: "Why should there be such a military force? Aren't we considered human beings? Don't they (?consider) us capable of protecting ourselves? Also, why this Rapid Deployment Force?

"They will say against the Soviet Union.... Well, I am not one of those who are afraid of the Soviet Union. If they build this force it will be a danger to this area. Therefore we don't support this force."

Question: Why would it be a danger in this area? What would be the danger of the Rapid Deployment Force in this area?

Answer: There is no danger threatening this area.... The danger comes from the two superpowers.... If they are far off the area then there is no danger to it.

"All that we ask for from the two powers is to be friendly to this area and to stay away from the Gulf area....We don't need any of them."

Question: The U.S. is insistent that the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan is a threat to Western interests in this region. You don't see that threat? Is that correct?

Answer: "Anyway, I don't agree with the Soviet Union's opinion concerning Afghanistan.... because what was done to Afghanistan was a military occupation which we do not appove of whether such action threatens the interest of the West or not....Well, this is not my problem but the West's problem. The Westerners should be asked whether it threatens their interests.

"But regarding military occupation....It is something we differ with the Soviet Union about and we say it is not right and contradicts international norms and we do not approve of this."

Question: Washington might be saying, when they (?hear) the words that you uttered, well, that is very well but at the end of the day Kuwait might easily in stress come to us for help and assistance to protect this government. What is your response to that?

Answer: "Protect the government....You mean protecting my government, from whom?"

## QATAR

### YAR DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER DEPARTS 15 SEP

GF151941 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1913 GMT 15 Sep 81

[Text] Doha, 15 Sep (GNA)--YAR Deputy Foreign Minister Ghalib 'Ali Jamil left Doha today at the end of a short visit to Qatar during which he conveyed a verbal message from YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih to the amir of Qatar, Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, on bilateral relations, current developments and the situation in the region.

The YAR official's visit to Qatar is part of a current tour of a number of area countries during which he will convey similar messages to the leaders of these countries.

## SAUDI ARABIA

### YAMANI INTERVIEWED ON OIL OUTPUT, PRICING POLICY

PM091451 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 8 Sep 81 p 3

[Interview granted by Saudi Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Wealth Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani to Muhammad Ma'ruf ash-Shibani in Jidda--date not given]

[Excerpt] [Question] Saudi Arabia has persistently advocated the reduction of oil prices. It has also been selling its oil below world prices. What is your philosophy behind this policy, and why this insistence on reducing prices?

[Answer] In fact, there is no specific policy as you would think, but there are conditions that might change and reasons that might vary. In certain cases the motives of the Saudi Arabian Kingdom might be to resist successive price rises in view of the situation of the consuming countries, particularly the developing countries. The Saudi Arabian Kingdom's desire is not to make oil price rises a burden on countires which might not be able to bear them. The present situation is different from what it was in the past. Increasing oil prices during 1979 and 1980, from a little over $12 to $32 or more [per barrel], has caused a great rush toward investment in energy utilities, with the aim of reducing consumption and developing alternative energy sources in order to lessen reliance on oil. This has resulted in a drop in OPEC's share of the market from 31 million barrels per day in 1979 to much less than 24 million barrels this year. Some analysts believe that OPEC's share in the nineties will drop to less than 15 million barrels per day. This means the end of the organization. It also means many economic difficulties for the Saudi Arabian Kingdom, which basically depends on its oil income.

We have often cautioned against the consequences of increasing oil prices rashly and unwisely. I recall that last year I pointed out to this fact at the petroleum university and warned of a glut in the market. Unfortunately, many people in Saudi Arabia, including educated people, did not visualize this as a reality. We in OPEC are now suffering from a real crisis whose cause is oil price rises, and we will not be able to lessen the acuteness of this crisis except through taking the course we are taking now, which is to reduce oil prices. They should be reduced, if possible, or, at least, should remain at their present level for a long time, so as to curb investment in alternative sources so that this organization will once again be what it used to be in the past, and so that the Saudi Arabian Kingdom will be assured of obtaining sufficient income sufficient to meet its financial requirements for the next 20 or 30 years.

[Question] In a recent statement to the press you expressed a fear of a reduction in world oil prices to less than $32, which is the Saudi price, and said then that you would defend this price. How could this possibly happen, and how will you then defend the $32 price? By reducing production?

[Answer] Such a possibility has in fact come nearer to reality--it is more than just a possibility. Nigeria, for example, has reduced its price to $36 per barrel. It is known that there is a difference between the price of Nigerian oil and that of the light Arab oil. Up to now we have disagreed on evaluating this difference. The North African countries believe it should be $4 while Nigeria itself advocates $3. If the difference is $4 then Nigerian oil valued on the basis of the light Arab oil is $32 (the same as the Saudi price). But if it is $3, then the Nigerian oil price in that case is $33. We have recently learned that Nigeria is about to make a further reduction in the oil price, but it will be done invisibly by reducing royalties and taxes on companies operating there, which are still operating under a franchise system. This reduction could reach $1 or more. Should this happen, the price of Nigerian oil will be either $32 or $31. Should this trend prevail in North Africa and other countries, the Saudi Arabian Kingdom will find that the price of its oil is higher than that of others, in which case Saudi oil production will drop to very low levels as a result of this action.

[Question] According to reports, Saudi Arabia is under heavy pressure from the other OPEC countries to increase its oil price or reduce its production. How long will you be able to resist such pressures?

[Answer] In fact, by adopting the stand it did Saudi Arabia is showing awareness of its and OPEC's interests. As a matter of fact, all those countries which are said to be bringing pressure on the Saudi Arabian Kingdom are economically aware that the Saudi stand is in the interest of Saudi Arabia as well as in their own interests, but they act on political principles that are contrary to their own economic interests. The Saudi Arabian Kingdom has no reason to act in a manner that would cause it great harm in the future, regardless or how such pressures may increase.

[Question] So you interpret the stand of those countries opposing Saudi policy on pricing and production as being due to political, and not economic causes as it should be.

[Answer] Very few economists disagree that the accusation by these countries that the Saudi Arabian Kingdom is the cause of the oil glut and the increased stockpiles should be ignored if not ridiculed. It is understood by everybody that the glut in the world market is due to oil price rises and a drop in demand and that the present stockpiles were built up during periods when production rates in these countries reached their maximum production capacity. At that time Saudi Arabia was producing less than it is producing now.

[Question] But the argument of these countries is that high Saudi production combined with its low price is damaging them in that it is difficult for them to market their oil internationally; therefore their production drops and, consequently, their financial revenues diminish.

[Answer] This is true, but the Saudi Arabian Kingdom is carrying out OPEC resolutions. The Bali conference last year decided that the official price of market crude was to be $32 per barrel. Saudi Arabia complied with this decision, but other OPEC countries took advantage of OPEC's permission to increase their prices to a certain level; most of these countries raised their prices to the maximum ceiling. The responsibility in this case falls on the country that used that leeway. As for us in Saudi Arabia, we abide by OPEC resolutions, as we always have in the past. Therefore, it is the duty of these countries to go back to the price decided by the organization, and then their production can increase.

[Question] There is another accusation leveled by some OPEC countries which probably stems from political considerations. They say that the United States played a part in persuading Saudi Arabia to reduce prices and increase production.

[Answer] Indeed, if they wanted to be fair and if they studied the oil facts they would not have said such a thing. As long as the language used is political and not economic language, then it would be better for us to remain silent, because political language might hurt and we do not wish to hurt anybody.

[Question] You have pointed out the political background from which certain countries proceed in evaluating the question of prices and production. Are there no political factors or background that you take into consideration when you work out price and production strategy?

[Answer] The oil strategy laid down by a committee representing OPEC countries could not have a political background, because these countries represent different political trends which are not necessarily identical. The members of this committee are Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, the Saudi Arabian Kingdom, Algeria and Venezuela. So the committee's work was purely economic.

[Question] As far as the Saudi Arabian Kingdom is concerned, are there any political backgrounds or factors that you take into consideration when you adopt stands on prices and production matters?

[Answer] If you are talking about the past, there were definitely several factors that influenced the Saudi decision, including a political factor, namely, our desire to protect the world economy and the interests of the developing countries. Oil was used as a political weapon in drawing the Western world's attention to the Palestine problem. It was used in different ways, and we had great success in such use.

[Question] What about the present?

[Answer] We believe that at present we are making our decisions in the light of purely economic interest and that there are no political considerations present.

[Question] Is this an exclusion of the possibility of using oil as a weapon?

[Answer] With the existence of a large oil surplus at present, talk about using oil as a weapon is sheer fantasy. But oil as a political force still exists. Oil as a political weapon will come back once again when there is a balance between supply and demand. If the Arab peoples find out the truth about what the price increase has done to their cause, they will rise to demand that their governments reduce prices so that demand will increase and the oil weapon will regain its strength.

[Question] Is it true, therefore, that increasing Saudi production, which might be one cause of the surplus, will bar the possibility of using oil as a weapon?

[Answer] Increasing production is in fact in the interest of hastening the time when the oil weapon will return.

Because the weakness of this weapon is due to the surplus of the surplus is caused by the high prices, which in turn have led to big investments in oil substitutes and to a reduction in consumption. If we can reduce prices we can lessen the rush into these investments. We can then restore the importance of oil. We can control the price only by a decision or through productions they are interlinked. If you can increase production sufficiently to bring pressure on the levels of market prices and remove the possibility of their increase, then you lead on to what is happening now in the major industrial powers, which have begun reconsidering their investments in alternative energy sources.

As a result of the Saudi production and pricing policy many major companies have been very reluctant to implement their energy substitution projects. This is in the interest of the Arab cause in that it restores the importance of oil.

[Question] You indicated at the recent OPEC conference in Geneva that Saudi Arabia was willing to increase its oil price from $32 to $34 as a compromise with the hardliners. Do you still intend to do so, or has the idea been dropped following the failure of the organization's recent meeting?

[Answer] In fact there is no question of talking about intentions. Unfortunately, the conference failed, and as the meeting came to an end the price levels in the market began to drop below $34: The average price in the world market became just under $33. What we were afraid of and are still afraid of is that the price would drop below $32.

[Question] This means that you have no intention of increasing the price of Saudi oil during the period from now until the ordinary OPEC conference in December in Abu Dhabi?

[Answer] There is definitely no such intention. The Saudi Arabian Kingdom believes that $32 per barrel is a high price and is against its interest. Nevertheless, out of its commitment to OPEC it will maintain it. And out of the desire to standardize prices with the others, to maintain OPEC unity and to take the desires of others into consideration the kingdom agreed to increase its price to $34. The others did not agree with this. The $34 price which they rejected will become difficult to obtain in the future. We did not cling to the $34 per barrel price but refused to have it imposed on us, and we did not accept it only because it was the average market price when we went to the conference. This means that, had we accepted the $34 price, we would not have increased or decreased the oil price but would have fixed it at its average on the oil markets.

[Question] What were the factors that led average oil prices on the world market to drop from $34 during the recent OPEC meeting in Geneva, until they have now almost reached $32 in a short period of no more than 3 weeks?

[Answer] The countries that are selling at high prices have begun giving discounts either directly or indirectly. They do this in different ways. One such way is that a company which has an oil refinery comes to buy oil and, instead of being sold crude at a high price, it is sold oil products which are in fact refined in that company's refinery. These products are sold at a very low price reflecting a low crude price. For the purchasing company it is merely a matter of avoiding paying the crude price; it does not need to buy crude but buys products--which is what it needs--at a low price.

Another trick is bartering, which has recently been offered to Japan, India and other countries. The idea is that a given state sells its oil at a nominally high price, which is the official price, but buys goods at high prices. The state that has sold the goods will then actually have paid for the oil at a much lower price than the posted price.

A third method is to spread the period of payment; instead of the oil cost being paid in 15 or 30 days, it is paid after 3 or 6 months. This means (if we calculate the interest on the amounts due) a drop in the price of the oil sold. There are other methods which some of these countries are using and which we have begun to discover. The new method being adopted is to give the company having the franchise a reduction in taxes and in the royalties to be paid. As a result the company makes additional profit which is tantamount to a reduction in the oil price.

[Question] Is this what happened in Nigeria?

[Answer] It may happen in Nigeria, as we have learned, and it actually has happened in another country in North Africa.

[Question] So you do not expect the hardline countries to reduce their oil prices at present but you do expect some of them to resort to these methods that will indirectly realize an actual reduction in the price without officially declaring it?

[Answer] I believe that, even with recourse to such invisible methods, the result will be exactly the same as an official reduction, from an economic standpoint at least.

[Question] Do you intend to continue reducing Saudi production by 1 million barrels [per day] after the end of this September?

[Answer] We are intending nothing at the moment. We are watching developments on the market and acting in a manner that preserves the interests of both OPEC and the Saudi Arabian Kingdom.

[Question] What in your view, are the international conditions under which Saudi Arabia would have to increase its oil price?

[Answer] There are no conditions whatever in the coming years that would allow for increasing prices. Doing such a thing would be tantamount to committing suicide and sacrificing the real interests of our country, and we would pay a high price for that in the future.

[Question] Are there any international conditions which might compel Saudi Arabia to reduce its production?

[Answer] The decision to reduce production would be either to protect the interests of OPEC and the Saudi Arabian Kingdom or because of the market itself. If we unify prices in accordance with a decision by OPEC, or if other OPEC countries reduce their prices to below $33 or even $32, then the price will become unified de facto and not as the result of any decision.

[Question] Is the Kingdom making efforts to contribute to the development of alternative energy sources, or is this contrary to Saudi Arabia's desire to reduce the West's investments in this field in order to leave the door open for marketing Saudi oil?

[Answer] At present we have no interest in participation. Such talk was palatable 3 years ago, but at present we want to develop the oil market.

[Question] Why has this view changed within only 3 years?

[Answer] Only 2 years ago OPEC's share of the world market was 31 million barrels per day and, under the pressure of market demand and the buyers' need, Saudi Arabia was compelled to increase its production and to exhaust its oil reserve faster than it wished. Now demand has dropped and OPEC's share of the market has dropped and will continue to drop for some time. If oil prices become unified, Saudi Arabia's production will drop to less than 8.5 million barrels per day. This could lead to a deficit in its budget. Therefore, it is looking forward to the development of the oil market so that its production together with the rest of OPEC countries will reach a level that will meet their financial needs and requirements. It is for this reason that the view has changed.

[Question] What are you hoping to achieve at the next OPEC conference in Abu Dhabi?

[Answer] It is a long time until December. What happens in the oil market is a surprise to many other countries. Therefore it is difficult now to speculate on what will happen at the December meeting.

DEFENSE MINISTER COMMENTS ON AWACS DEAL

LD171246 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1100 GMT 17 Sep 81

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 17 Sep (SPA)--Minister of Defense and Aviation, His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, expressed his belief that the U.S. Government, led by President Reagan, is serious about supplying the Kingdom with all its requests--AWACS aircraft and additional equipment for the F-15s. In a statement after attending the graduation ceremony of the 20th batch of pilots from the King Faysal Air College, his highness said, we request, but if our request is not met then we will go to any source.

In answer to a question about future relations with the United States if the U.S. Congress refuses to approve the Kingdom's request, his highness said: Our relations with all states do not depend on one deal. In reply to a question about whether the British-made Nimrod aircraft are the alternative, his highness said: It is not in the Kingdom's interest to talk about anything now until we know all the details.

In reply to a question regarding the possibility of holding a meeting of the defense ministers of the Gulf Cooperation Council his highness said: The foreign ministers have a view which will be submitted to the six governments; soon the chiefs of staff of the six countries will meet; perhaps the defense ministers will meet when the Gulf Cooperation Council summit is held. In answer to a question about the steps relating to the establishment of the armament industry establishment of the Gulf countries, his highness said that the Gulf countries have thought of establishing armament industries and this is under detailed study.

IRAQI OIL OFFICIAL DENIES MINISTER'S REMARKS

GF151840 Riyadh AL-JAZIRAH in Arabic 14 Sep 81 pp 1, 22

[Report by 'Abdallah al-Munif]

[Excerpts] At-Ta'if--Iraqi Oil Ministry Under Secretary 'Abd al-Mun'im as-Samarra'i talked to AL-JAZIRAH following his meeting with Petroleum and Mineral Affairs Minister Ahmad Zaki Yamani. He said: My meeting with Petroleum and Mineral Affairs Minister Ahmad Zaki Yamani is one of a series of meeting we have been holding regularly to develop the fraternal relations between Iraq and Saudi Arabia in the petroleum industry field. We discussed the stages of the implementation of joint projects. We also discussed an important issue related to cooperation in exchanging and marketing petroleum products. We did not touch on the issue of crude oil and its prices, but we did discuss energy affairs, alternative sources of energy and the consumption of crude oil in the industrial and developing countries.

Referring to cooperation between Saudi Arabia and Iraq, the Iraqi Oil Ministry under secretary said: Cooperation exists through the fraternal relations that bind the two countries, as well as in many other spheres in addition to cooperation in the petroleum industry. Our political stands are fraternal and very good. We are very pleased with this cooperation with fraternal Saudi Arabia.

Referring to a recent statement by Iraqi Oil Minister Tayih 'Abd al-Karim to the magazine AD-DUSTUR that Saudi Arabia was the principal cause of the failure of the recent OPEC conference in Geneva, 'Abd al-Mun'im as-Samarra'i said: What has been attributed to Iraqi Oil Minister Tayih 'Abd al-Karim is not true at all. The journalist who interviewed him did not report his remarks honestly, for the minister's words were greatly distorted. The journalist who held the distorted interview with the Iraqi oil minister has been held to task.

## PDRY

### 'ALI NASIR RECEIVES GULF COUNCIL SECRETARY

EA141638 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 14 Sep 81

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and chairman of the Council of Ministers, received at his office this afternoon Brother 'Abdallah Bisharah, secretary general of the Gulf Cooperation Council. During the meeting the secretary general gave an account of the council's objectives and of developments in the situation in the region.

The brother YSP secretary general stressed the importance of concerted efforts by the states in the region to ward off dangers, entrench stability and deepen fruitful cooperation in the interest of the peoples of the region. He pointed out that the existence of an atmosphere of understanding, trust and mutual respect will lead to fraternal cooperation. This applies to existing relations between Democratic Yemen and several of the countries in the region.

Brother 'Abdallah Bisharah Yaqub arrived in the PDRY last night.

### 'ALI NASIR ISSUES STATEMENT ON YAR VISIT

EA161316 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 15 Sep 81

[Excerpts] Following the signing of the communique, Brothers 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih exchanged the documents of the joint communique and embraced each other in a warm brotherly manner. Then Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and the delegation accompanying him left Ta'izz city. Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad made the following press statement on his return to Aden from Ta'izz: [read by announcer]

Today we visited the city of Ta'izz, a place dear to the hearts of all the Yemeni revolutionaries, within the framework of the joint fraternal efforts we are making with our brothers in the northern part of the homeland, headed by Brother President Ali Abdullah Salih. Our aim is to reinforce brotherly dialogues and intensify union efforts in order to achieve that Yemeni unity for which our people are struggling, a unity that constitutes a guarantee for their progress and stability under the glorious 26 September and 14 October revolutions.

As was the case in all of our previous visits and meetings with our brothers in our dear northern homeland, we reviewed and assessed a number of vital issues concerning ways to achieve Yemeni unity and promote the forms and methods of joint work in various political, economic, cultural and other fields to the level that guarantees the reinforcement and development of the necessary peaceful and democratic bases for achieving the unity of our Yemeni people. The meetings were held and assessments made in light of the unity agreements and the principles and aims of the great Yemeni revolution.

I can say with every confidence that our visit has contributed to consolidating the joint work between the leaderships of the two parts, toward widening the scope of brotherly contacts and consultations, toward continuing to the implementation of agreements made so far, and toward overcoming all of the difficulties obstructing the path of the struggle to build a unified and prosperous homeland for our people.

We hope that these constructive brotherly visits and meetings will be repeated in various Yemeni cities in both parts of the homeland. For our part, we continue to strive to obtain the results of our loyalty to the supreme national interests of the Yemeni people and our faith in the principles and aims of the 26 September and 14 October revolutions.

We will continue to proceed along this road which the masses of our great Yemeni people support, firmly determined to face the difficulties and to confront plots by hostile forces that are disturbed by the continued joint peaceful union work being carried on by the two parts' leaders.

OFFICIAL RECEIVES PALESTINIAN FRONT, IRAQI CP LEADERS

EA171947 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 17 Sep 81

[Text] A review of cooperation and joint coordination between the YSP, the Iraqi Communist Party, and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] took place when brother Brig 'Ali Ahmad Nasir Antar, member of the YSP Political Bureau, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of local government, received brothers 'Aziz Muhammad, secretary general of the Iraqi Communist Party; Tarsir Khalid, member of the DFLP Political Bureau; and the delegations accompanying them.

Views were also exchanged on the situation in the Arab region and the tasks of the Arab national liberation movement in confronting the imperialist, Zionist and reactionary conspiracies.

Brothers 'Aziz Muhammad and Taysir Khalid left Aden this morning after concluding their visit to Democratic Yemen during which they held discussions with the YSP leadership. They were seen off at the airport by Brother Mahmud Ahmad an-Najashi, member and deputy secretary of the YSP Central Committee.

AR-RAZZAQ DEPARTS FOR MOSCOW 16 SEP

EA161550 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 16 Sep 81

[Text] Brother 'Ali 'Abd ar-Razzaq Ba Dhib, member of the Central Committee, deputy prime minister and chairman of the Yemeni Council of Peace and Solidarity, left for Moscow this morning at the head of a delegation on a visit to the Soviet Union at the invitation of the Soviet Peace Committee.

In a statement to the ADEN NEWS AGENCY before leaving from Aden International Airport, Brother 'Ali 'Abd ar-Razzaq Ba Dhib said that the visit was aimed at strengthening relations of cooperation and that views would be exchanged on issues concerning the two sides. He added that the delegation would take advantage of its presence there to hold a number of meetings with the authorities concerned with support to the causes of peace and solidarity with peoples.

He pointed out that the visit was of great importance in view of the circumstances through which the region is passing. The Yemeni Peace Council's relations with the Soviet Peace Committee also acquired special significance because of the role being played by the Soviet Union in supporting the causes of progress and socialism in the world. He added that the visit would lead to consolidating the joint stands and to cementing the relations between the two sides.

REPORTAGE, COMMENT ON DEPORTATION OF SOVIETS

Hulwan Contingent's Departure

NC171425 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1345 GMT 17 Sep 81

[Text] Cairo, 17 Sep (MENA)--Engineer Fu'ad Abu Zaghlah, chairman of the Iron and Steel Company, said today that 79 Soviet experts working in the iron and steel complex in Hulwan were deported with their families today. He added that 120 experts and their families are expected to be deported tomorrow and that the remaining experts and their families will be deported within a week.

Abu Zaghlah said that work is proceeding normally and with skill and zeal. The Egyptian experts have immediately replaced the Soviet experts and have begun to carry out repairs on the third high-blast furnace at the complex.

Abu Zaghlah added that the 170 housing units of Soviet experts at the company's housing complex in At-Tabbin will be given immediately to the Egyptian workers on a first come, first served basis and according to the circumstances of each worker.

Moscow 'Retaliation' Scoffed

NC180902 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0750 GMT 18 Sep 81

[Text] Cairo, 18 Sep (MENA)--The Cairo newspaper AL-AHRAM scoffs at the report carried by the Soviet news agency TASS that the Soviet Foreign Ministry has asked the Egyptian military attache and his assistants to leave the Soviet Union within 7 days.

Commenting on this subject today, the newspaper says that the Egyptian Cabinet, when it adopted its decisions last Tuesday regarding the Soviet ambassador and six members of the Soviet Embassy as persona non grata because of their involvement in acts designed to cause internal disturbances and unrest, included a decision abolishing the Soviet military office in Cairo and the Egyptian military office in Moscow.

The paper says: It appears that Moscow has pretended to forget this last decision in an attempt to save face after its suspect involvement had been established.

Defense of Dignity Stressed

NC180849 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0610 GMT 18 Sep 81

[From the press review]

[Text] AL-JUMHURIYAH comments on the departure of the Soviet ambassador for his country, saying yesterday the Soviet ambassador departed for his country for good. Leaving on the same private airliner that was sent by his leadership in Moscow was a group of Soviet spy diplomats who desecrated Egyptian soil by their plotting.

AL-JUMHURIYAH says that Moscow radio, as usual, did not comment or even mention the departure of its henchmen after they were uncovered. The paper affirms that the government decision to expel the ambassador, his aides and the Soviet experts proves that in defending its dignity and security, Egypt is not afraid of anyone. The expulsion decision has emphasized Egypt's free will and decision and that it fears no power that tries to harm its dignity, sovereignty and pride. The Soviet Union, its lackeys and agents inside and outside must think twice before they try to repeat their scandal. Strong-willed Egypt will not allow bats of darkness to leave their holes. Egypt's decision will be a brandished sword that will cut the head of the snake if it returns.

LIBYAN CLAIM OF COMMAND COUNCIL ARREST RIDICULED

NC172314 Cair MENA in Arabic 2243 GMT 17 Sep 81

[Text] Cairo, 17 Sep (MENA)--Colonel Al-Qadhdhafi's radio today said in its newscast of lies from Tripoli that the Egyptian authorities have detained the members of the 23 July Revolution Command Council. This is another example of how Al-Qadhdhafi's radio is deceiving the Libyan masses. All the members of the 23 July Revolution Command Council are at home or at their summer resorts in Alexandria or other places. There is no restriction on them or on any citizen in Egypt.

When the Egyptian authorities arrest someone for reasons related to subversive activity, his name and specific crime are announced. No measures are taken in secret and unless the law is violated.

Al-Qadhdhafi and those who promote his lies should realize that in Egypt, the days are gone when people were illegally or secretly detained as happens in Libya or the states that follow in its path.

AL-AKHBAR WARNS LIBYA ON THREATENING SUDAN, EGYPT

NC172344 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2257 GMT 17 Sep 81

[Text] Cairo, 17 Sep (MENA)--The newspaper AL-AKHBAR affirms that Egypt and Sudan are alert and prepared to answer Al-Qadhdhafi's gangsterism on the borders of Sudan, and that the military alliance he concluded with Ethiopia and South Yemen will be of no use to him.

The paper warns that if Al-Qadhdhafi carries his gangsterism too far, this might lead to his inevitable end and to the fate that undoubtedly awaits him.

In its Friday edition, the paper says that this is merely a warning to Al-Qadhdhafi and his masters who dominate him through his agentry and subservience. It adds that is he does not heed the warnings and he continues to act like a gangster with his Soviet aircraft on Sudan's borders, then he will be the loser and will only have himself to blame.

The paper says that Al-Qadhdhafi's aircraft that recently violated Sudan's airspace near Chad's border and that was down by Sudanese air defenses was not the first of Al-Qadhdhafi's planes to play havoc in Sudan's airspace.

It adds that Al-Qadhdhafi's preparations in Chad near the Sudanese border were no secret to anyone. Sudan knew about them and the Sudanese Government was watching the situation with complete vigilance and was well aware of the possibilities.

In this respect, the paper says that Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri had warned Libya that he would open fire on Al-Qadhdhafi's aircraft if they repeated their violations of Sudan's airspace while carrying arms from the Soviet arsenals in Libya to be distributed to other states.

The paper adds: Al-Qadhdhafi's planes in recent days have violated Sudan's airspace and strafed some Sudanese villages near Chad's borders. The last time was last Tuesday when Al-Qadhdhafi's planes attacked Sudanese villages twice. During the second attack four people were wounded. The Sudanese air defenses intercepted these planes and shot down a Soviet-made bomber. Both of its pilots were killed.

The paper continues: Despite all this, Al-Qadhdhafi has not tried to deal with this matter directly, but has presented it in a twisted way and has tried to place the responsibility for what happened on Sudan. He has repeated the arguments of his Soviet masters. They tell him to move so he moves and they tell him to speak so he speaks. They draw up the plans which he must carry out, and he must pay Libyan oil money for the fulfillment of their ambitions and suspect schemes.

AL-AHRAM REPORTS ARREST OF LEBANESE AGENT COURIER

NC172320 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2259 GMT 18 Sep 81

[Text] Cairo, 17 Sep (MENA)--AL-AHRAM says in its Friday edition that the state security investigation authorities have arrested a Lebanese agent named Muhammad Hamad, 55 years old. He used to convey information and funds to the subversive group which had instructions from certain organizations in Beirut to plant bombs in a number of important places in Cairo.

The paper says that the agent worked for the Beirut municipality and was arrested the day before yesterday. The investigating magistrate faced him with the fact that he was exploited by the Palestinian Revolution Eagles organization to convey the organization's messages to the subversive group members who were enlisted in Beirut and Baghdad and then came to Cairo, and with the fact that he delivered a message and cassettes from Cairo to Beirut.

The Lebanese agent was held on the charge of setting up and running a secret organization aimed at changing the social system and seizing power.

'ALI MAKES STATEMENT ON NEGOTIATIONS WITH ISRAEL

NC151916 Cairo MENA in English 1805 GMT 15 Sep 81

[Excerpt] Tokyo, 15 Sep (MENA)--In a statement made to the press here today Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that Israel would not be given any privileges in Sinai.

The Egyptian foreign minister stated that no joint venture projects would be set up in Sinai in view of the sensitivity of Sinai for Egypt; any project would be one hundred per cent Egyptian, he said.

According to the provisions of the Egyptian-Israeli peace agreement, Israel would not receive any preferential treatment but rather the treatment of one neighbour to another and one with which Egypt had relations it wished to develop continuously, particularly after the achievement of a comprehensive and just peace in the area, he said.

'Ali added that he hoped progress would be attained during the forthcoming round of autonomy talks to be held in Cairo on September 23 and 24.

He pointed out that Israeli intransigence had placed obstacles to the negotiations in the past, particularly as regards Israel's position on Jerusalem as well as its continuous construction of settlements and the inhuman measures it adopted in the West Bank and Gaza.

The Egyptian foreign minister also said that as the autonomy talks were being resumed, agreement on the points of outstanding differences had to be outlined and negotiated during the talks. He added that he hoped the Israeli side would adopt a new position as the differences were numerous and had to be overcome. The foreign minister stressed in that respect that the major differences consisted in a number of definite issues among which was the determination of the concept of full autonomy for the Palestinians.

He pointed out that according to the United Nations Charter, full autonomy implied granting a people of any region the right to self-determination. It was this concept that had to be discussed during the forthcoming negotiations. He expressed the hope that the Israeli side would show an understanding for these issues in order to overcome these differences.

In answer to a question on his opinion of the Saudi project on the Middle East, 'Ali pointed out that it did not differ in its object from what Egypt intended to achieve. He added that the difference, however, consisted in the practical means that had to be pursued to achieve that same end.

Camp David was until now the only tangible reality capable of fulfilling this aim, it had to be implemented until another positive agreement was reached on another effective way to realise it, he said. In his respect he stressed that Egypt was receptive to any other agreement that would obtain the approval of the other parties concerned.

'Ali also said that Egypt will ask to join the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) in 1984, as it produced 40 million barrels annually. This output would increase by another 14 per cent annually, to reach one hundred million tons in 1985.

The foreign minister pointed to Japan's contribution to development projects in Egypt, among which is the development of the Suez Canal.

Kamal 'Ali pointedly said that trade between Egypt and Japan rose to $782 million at the end of last year.

The foreign minister stressed in his statements the importance of his visit to Japan as it took place at a moment when views had to be exchanged with Japanese officials on regional problems. Japan was a major economic power in the world today, he said.

DEFENSE MINISTER MEETS WITH BRITISH COUNTERPART

NC172040 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 17 Sep 81

[Text] Military discussions between Egypt and Britain started this evening. The Egyptian side was represented by Defense Minister Lt Gen 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, while the British side was represented by British Defense Minister John Nott. The meeting lasted about 90 minutes.

Afterwards, Minister Abu Ghazalah said the discussions were held in a friendly atmosphere and that many subjects were discussed. He added that foremost among the subjects discussed was the issue of the joint production of arms and military equipment. He said there is a tendency for the joint production of arms such as artillery, spare parts for various weapons, ammunition and electric batteries. He added that some joint production has actually started and work is proceeding on others. He added that during the discussions the possibility of an agreement on a long-range program--from 10 to 15 years--for manufacturing military armaments as well as a program for providing industrial and technological knowhow was also dealt with. He added that this will take some time since it is not just a matter of drawing up the contract but also includes matters of joint production and marketing. He added that the benefits of joint production would be embodied in obtaining work permits in Egypt and the fact that the energy crisis which exists in Britain does not exist here.

The defense minister said he had reached an agreement with the British side on exchanging delegations in various spheres--scientific as well as military. He said we welcome any friendly country that wishes to hold joint military maneuvers with our forces, because this allows us to become acquainted with the modern military tactics, equipment and concepts of other nations. This helps develop the Egyptian Armed Forces.

The British defense minister expressed his great appreciation for the establishment of the Arab-British Company for Dynamic Products and affirmed that no limits are imposed on cooperation in the joint manufacture of military equipment.

CHIEF OF STAFF RETURNS FROM SUDAN 17 SEP

NC171910 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1610 GMT 17 Sep 81

[Text] Cairo, 17 Sep (MENA)--Egyptian Armed Forces Chief of Staff Lt Gen 'Abd Rab an-Nabi Hafiz and the delegation accompanying him returned to Cairo this afternoon from Khartoum, concluding a 5-day visit during which he headed the Egyptian side in the regular meeting of the Egyptian-Sudanese Joint Staff.

He stated on arrival that the talks with the Sudanese side, headed by Chief of Staff Lt 'Izz ad-Din were conducted in a spirit of cordiality and fraternity and achieved positive results.

He added that it has been agreed that the next meeting will be held in Cairo.

DEFENSE MINISTER SPEAKS AFTER VIEWING EXERCISE

NC171930 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1754 GMT 17 Sep 81

[Text] Suez, 17 Sep (MENA)--Minister of Defense and War Production and Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces Lt Gen 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah attended the final stages of the military exercise that began several days ago in the 3d Field Army sector.

He inspected the forces participating in the exercise and then 3d Army Commander Staff Maj Gen Qadri 'Uthman explained in detail the course of the operation and the positions of the forces taking part on both sides. The commanders of the two sides then submitted to the defense minister their combat plans.

The exercise included a battle in which mechanized infantry, artillery, air defense, air force and reconnaissance units participated.

The exercise was also attended by the head of the training service, Staff Maj Gen Muhammad Nabih as-Sayyid, Armored Corps Commander Staff Maj Gen Muhammad Majid al-Far, 2d Army Commander Salah 'Abd al-Halim and other senior armed forces commanders.

This exercise is considered to be one the most important carried at this stage in terms of the size of the participating forces, estimated at 10,000 troops and about 700 armored cars and tanks, and the planning and creation of an atmosphere of a real battle and all its possibilities.

The exercise will continue for several days. It will include large-scale air landing and water-crossing operations using advanced equipment and carriers.

Lt Gen 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah made a speech today after watching the exercise. He commended the serious training and combat capabilities demonstrated during the exercise.

The defense minister said that the armed forces are endeavoring to obtain the best military equipment to increase their capabilities. He revealed that the M-60 tanks and new armored cars received by the armed forces will appear in the military parade on 6 October and that the new U.S.-made F-16 fighter aircraft will begin to arrive next year.

He added that it is necessary to obtain modern advanced tanks designed for the year 2000. These tanks, he said, are already in service in some of the armies of the world and they will be the main armament of all the armies in the East and the West.

The defense minister said his talks with the British defense secretary will cover new types of arms, especially advanced tanks. He added: We will also discuss cooepration with Britain on the question of supplying Egypt with [word indistinct] and military aid.

The defense minister noted that the situation in the area is dangerous and said that Libya's aerial bombardment of a Sudanese village close to the border with Chad could have been inspired by the Soviet Union following the decision to deport the Soviet ambassador and a number of Soviet Embassy staff members and Soviet experts in Cairo. He said the Soviet diplomats and experts did in fact contact their agents, who are now in custody, in order to fan the fires of sectarian sedition and cause distrubances against the regime and against the citizens' safety and security.

The defense minister said the Egyptian Armed Forces are among the few armed forces in the world that are capable of implementing their combat missions at the highest level. This has been confirmed by U.S. military experts, who have admitted they have learned from the Egyptian soldier's patience, perseverance and endurance in the desert.

Concluding his speech, the defense minister said we will do our best to improve the income of the officers and soldiers of the armed forces and to provide them with commodities, accommodations and transportation. He said six buildings have been obtained in the governorates of Cairo and Alexandria for housing armed forces personnel. He added that in October a contract will be signed to build 11,000 apartments in Cairo for armed forces personnel.

CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL APPROVES AS-SADAT'S MEASURES

NC171415 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 17 Sep 81

[Text] Today, the Consultative Council, which was chaired by speaker Dr Subhi 'Abd al-Hakim, debated the final report submitted by the special committee concerning the national unity issue in the light of the president's statement delivered at the joint session of the People's Assembly and the Consultative Council on 5 September.

In its report, the committee affirmed that the president's measures utterly conform to the clauses of the Constitution and their stipulations. The report added that these measures not only conform to the democratic process, but, in effect, provide protection for this process from those who want to harm it. These measures were also initiated through a mutual respect for the principle of the supremacy of the law which is the basis of the country's system since the inception of the turning point that occurred in Egyptian society when its system was transformed by President as-Sadat from that of a revolutionary legislation to a constitution legislation.

The report recommended that care should be practiced in the selection of preachers and their ordination. It also recommended that they be adequately prepared to make sure that their preaching advocates wisdom, benevolence and concern for social issues. The report called for reviewing the system of religious education to ensure the interpretation of religious knowledge for behavior and work. It also recommended that educational programs be concerned with the methods and means to instill national unity and allegiance to Egypt, and focus on the values of love and forgiveness in addition to adding sports, social and cultural programs to the curriculums of schools and universities to fill the students' leisure time.

The report also recommended that the teachers' educational role as well as the family system in universities be supported and that a comprehensive analysis be made of the religious thought that would enable Egypt's youths to confront the atheist streams and the destructive principles.

The report recommended that the social and economic problems of youths be confronted. It also called for providing them with new work opportunities. The report called on the Egyptian information media to be realistic and to present dramatic performances that would denote the unity of Islam and Christianity and provide guidance for the behavior of the Egyptian youths. It also recommended practical participation to resolve the problems of youths and to announce programs for youth activities.

The Consultative Council has approved the report of the committee and has decided to refer it to the president, the People's Assembly and the Cabinet to implement its recommendations. Later, the presidential decree was read--announcing the adjournment of the extraordinary session of the council. Then, the council was adjourned.

HAMMADI DISCUSSES NONALIGNED SUMMIT, WAR

JN180921 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0855 GMT 18 Sep 81

[Text] Paris, 18 Sep (INA)--Iraqi Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi has asserted that preparations are underway for convening the nonaligned summit conference in Baghdad next year. He added that Iran alone will not attend the conference although Iraq hopes that it will attend.

Touching on Iraq's war against Iran, the Iraqi minister said that Iraq is defending Arab rights and dignity and is fighting for the sake of Arab interests.

In a statement to AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI, which was published here today, Dr Hammadi said that Iraq is not a member in any military alliance and is not committed to any international side. He added that Iraq is only committed to using its armed forces when the independence and security of the Arab countries are being jeopardized.

He said that Iraq believes that peace with Iran should be based on guaranteeing Iraq's rights to its land and waters, guaranteeing Arab rights to the three islands, Iran's giving up its policy of hegemony in the Arab Gulf area, halting Iran's intervention in the domestic affairs of the Arab countries and respecting freedom of navigation in the Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz to safeguard Arab security and international interests.

Dr Hammadi pointed out that the Syrian regime is the only Arab regime that is assisting the Iranian regime.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUES

16 September

JN161633 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1615 GMT 16 Sep 81

[Iraqi Armed Forces General Command Communique No 463]

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Sep (INA)--Iraqi air force planes today attacked the Iranian regime's positions and concentrations in the southern sector of the battlefield, scored direct hits and returned safely to base.

A communique issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command has put total Iranian losses in lives at 57 killed. Following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 463 issued by the Armed Forces General Command.

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

With confidence and high spirits, our valiant armed forces continued their activities in the operational sectors yesterday evening and today. Following are the results:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Our forward units pounded enemy concentrations and positions in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] region, killing 12 and destroying 2 tanks, 1 vehicle, 1 gun, 1 excavator, 4 stockpiles of hardware and 1 observation post.

B. A force belonging to our forward units raided enemy positions in the Ahvaz region and hit it hard, killing nine and destroying one vehicle and one excavator.

C. Eight killed and one observation post destroyed in the Dezful region.

D. Seven killed and one vehicle destroyed in the Sare-e Pol-e Zahab region.

E. Seven killed in the Sumar region.

F. Five killed and one gun and three stockpiles of hardware destroyed in the Abadan region.

G. Four killed and one vehicle and one gun destroyed in the Shush region.

H. Five killed in the Mimak region opposite one of our units' positions in Sayf Sa'd.

I. One vehicle destroyed in the Mehran region.

J. Our air force aircraft today attacked enemy positions and concentrations in the southern sector of the battlefield, scored direct hits and returned safely to base.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 57 killed and 2 tanks, 5 vehicles, 3 guns, 2 excavators, 7 stockpiles of hardware and 2 observation posts destroyed.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: Seven martyrs in all sectors.

B. In equipment: one personnel carrier, two vehicles and three mortars damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 16 September 1981

17 September

JN171712 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 17 Sep 81

[Iraqi Armed Forces General Command Communique No 464]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Our capable armed forces continued their activities in the operational sectors last night and today with the following results:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Our forward units pounded enemy concentrations and positions in the Abadan region with various weapons, killing 17 and destroying 1 vehicle, 1 gun, 4 stockpiles of hardware and 2 observation posts.

B. An enemy concentration of personnel was sighted in front of the positions of one of our units in the Gilan-e Gharb region. It was hit with various weapons and forced to retreat after sustaining 14 killed.

C. Nine killed and one tank, one personnel carrier, two vehicles, two guns and two stockpiles of hardware destroyed in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] region.

D. Four killed in the Sumar region.

E. One killed in the Dezful region.

F. One vehicle loaded with hardware and one stockpile of hardware destroyed in the Nowsud region.

G. In a dogfight this morning, our fighter planes shot down two enemy fighter planes inside the Iranian border in the northern sector of the operations theater.

H. Our aircraft continued their daring raids today on enemy positions and concentrations in the southern sector of the operations theater, scoring direct hits before returning safely to base.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 45 killed and 1 tank, 1 personnel carrier, 4 vehicles, 3 guns, 7 stockpiles of hardware, 2 observation posts, and 2 fighter planes.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: Nine martyrs in all sectors.

B. In equipment: one tank, one personnel carrier, two vehicles, one mortar, and two guns damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 17 September 1981

VOICE OF SYRIA ON ANTIREGIME COMMITTEE, PAPER

JN161500 Baghdad Voice of Arab Syria in Arabic 1825 GMT 15 Sep 81

[Excerpt] Brother citizens: Along the path of struggle for the sake of establishing a democratic Arab society free of persecution, terrorism and all forms of discrimination, the Voice of Arab Syria presents AL-MINBAR, the mouthpiece of the Committee in Defense of Freedoms and Political Detainees in Syria.

Brother citizens, the grave and serious violation of human rights and basic freedoms by Al-Asad's regime has led a group of citizens to form a committee entrusted with the task of defending freedoms and political detainees in Syria. Out of its desire to acquaint the Arab and world public with further information and studies about human rights in our beloved country, the Voice of Arab Syria will present in its new broadcasting cycle a program prepared by the Committee in Defense of Freedoms and Political Detainees in Syria.

What is this committee? It is a nongovernmental organization comprising a group of people concerned about human rights and basic freedoms in the Arab homeland. Its aim is to defend freedoms and political detainees in Syria by all possible means regardless of their political and ideological convictions.

Does the committee have a certain party inclination that influences its activities? The committee is a nonparty organization and this is shown by its activities. Its task is to defend political detainees in Syria regardless of their political inclination. It also publishes in AL-MINBAR statements made by the Syrian opposition, particularly those pertaining to freedoms and the violation of those freedoms. Thus far, the committee has published several articles taken from AN-NADHIR leaflets, the mouthpiece of the Muslim Brotherhood Mujahidin in Syria; the newspaper NIDAL ASH-SHA'B, the mouthpiece of the Syrian Communist Party; and the newspaper AT-TAHRIR, the mouthpiece of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party.

What is AL-MINBAR and how many issues have been published thus far? AL-MINBAR is an irregular circular issued by the Committee in Defense of Freedoms and Political Detainees in Syria. It publishes reports on and analyzes violations of human rights and basic freedoms in Syria.

Thus far, five AL-MINBAR issues have been published. The first was published in September 1980 on the massacres perpetrated by Al-Asad's regime; the second in November 1980 on the ceremony held to eulogize martyr Salah ad-Din al-Bitar; the third in January 1981 on violations of human rights in Syria from 1970 to 1980; the fourth in May 1981 on the Palmyra massacre that was perpetrated by Rif'at al-Asad's forces on 27 June 1980; and the fifth in August 1981 on the Hamah massacres, particularly the massacre perpetrated by 'Ali Haydar forces in April 1981. All issues have supplements which include the names of martyrs and detainees.

Is AL-MINBAR published in Arabic only? No, it is published in English, French, Spanish and German, in addition to Arabic.

VOICE OF SYRIA QUESTIONS 'WORLD POWERS' POLICY

JN171041 Baghdad Voice of Arab Syria in Arabic 1910 GMT 16 Sep 81

[Excerpts] Brother citizens, we said yesterday that the internal isolation of the executioners' regime has led it to seek support and backing abroad and declare its intention to drag Syria, Lebanon and Palestine into capitulation to the Zionist enemy. Thus, this regime accepts the principle of comprehensive capitulation. Indeed it is seeking to achieve such capitulation. It rejects As-Sadat's methods and As-Sadat's policies in general.

We sense that some friends and brothers may feel inclined to dispute our statements, since some of those brothers are tired of shouldering responsibility. Thus, while some of those brothers venerate all that is uttered by Moscow, others feel that they have fantastic wealth in their hands and that since life is short it is high time for the possessors of wealth to enjoy it.

For the former group, Hafiz al-Asad represents a card in the hands of the East. Thus so long as the card is or may be Eastern, the writing on it and the fact that it is ugly and torn do not matter. For the latter group Hafiz al-Asad proved almost singlehandedly that Syria the troublemaker can be overcome and that the Palestinians swooping down over them can be controlled and restrained.

Naturally, in our argument with both groups, we do not proceed from our hostility toward Moscow. Nor do we proceed from the premise of a disdain of the value of Arab wealth. Rather, we proceed from the premises of some truths that are supposed to be clear and self-evident to all those who oppose shouldering responsibility.

The first truth we understand well is that the superpowers have their own interests, goals and policies. We as an Arab nation appreciate these interests and believe that there are no insoluble contradictions between these interests and Arab nation's aspirations--unity and freedom to live a dignified life and safeguard the nation's soil and independence. However, our understanding of interests is one thing and a dull-witted submission to all the details of the world power's policy is another; indeed, it is a different and [word indistinct] matter and no nation can accept it.

We believe that it is in the real interest of the friendly world powers to bolster our struggle for liberation and offer us military and political aid. Perhaps the benefits they reap from this are either proportionate or superior to our benefits from such support and backing. After all, we pay for the weapons and give these powers the opportunity to stand alongside the oppressed masses. We neither beg for nor supplicate to get such support because it is in the real interest of its givers to offer it.

However, it is our duty as a people to thoroughly investigate the practical formula of such support, since it is illogical for international policymakers to forget the meaning of the regime of executioners to our struggling people. We also have the right to ask friendly world states whether their support would be against Syria and the Arab nation or our enemy, God's enemy and the advocate of Zionism.

We all have the right to ask such a question and expect a clear answer without a shadow of ambiguity and deceit. Indeed, those advocating the support and backing of Hafiz al-Asad's policy should take into consideration the fact that deceiving people is a mere vestige of the past and that our people have the right to be treated without deceit by their friends.

A Middle East peace is impossible as long as Zionism remains the creed controlling the Zionist entity.

IRANIANS URGED TO KILL REVOLUTION GUARDS

NC170718 Baghdad in Persian to Iran 0600 GMT 16 Sep 81

[Unattributed talk]

[Excerpts] Oh freedom seekers, students, combatants, Iranian patriots, oppressed people of Iran, dear listeners: The revolution guard killers are a national phenomenon throughout Iran. Killing revolution guards has spread in Iran to such an extent that Khomeyni's regime, which is on the threshold of death, refrains from revealing incidents leading to the death of revolution guards.

Oh Iranians, oh wrathful and rebeling masses: The revolution guards can be killed with impunity. The revolution guards have killed so many people and have so harshly violated the rights of humans in Iran--both of men and of women--that killing them is a duty. Kill the revolution guards! Kill the mullahs! Kill them for they are enemies of Islam and Iran! Oh Iranians, killing revolution guards is a fast spreading phenomenon that is rapidly covering Iran and depriving the mullahs of the support of these, their associates, and of the devil worshipers--and you know that a mullah without a bodyguard is the same as a dead body and a trembling soul. If the revolution guards are killed by the combatants, the mullahs will have no weapon left. They will automatically fall, and Iran will be freed.

RAMADAN RETURNS HOME FROM ROMANIA, POLAND

JN180818 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0750 GMT 18 Sep 81

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Sep (INA)--Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and first deputy prime minister, returned from Bucharest today following a 4-day visit to Poland and Romania.

In a statement to INA, Ramadan described the outcome of his talks with Polish and Romanian officials as successful and fruitful, adding that the results are compatible with the two countries' aspirations in bolstering ties of friendship and cooperation. He said that the talks focused on means to deepen bilateral relations in the economic and trade fields.

During the visit, Ramadan signed cooperation agreements with Polish and Romanian officials.

AR-RA'Y: U.S. USES ALLIANCE AGAINST ARAB CAUSE

JN180832 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 18 Sep 81

[From press review]

[Text] Under the caption "Sidon's Explosion and the Israeli Scenario," AR-RA'Y says: All signs indicate that the fragile cease-fire agreement in southern Lebanon is approaching its end. This has been evident ever since Israel launched its large-scale propaganda campaign. The joint Palestinian-Lebanese forces have reorganized their ranks and rebuilt their positions in the south. Israel later massed troops in southern Lebanon. All this was followed by the Sidon explosion yesterday which claimed the lives of scores of victims. The PLO held Israel and its agents responsible for this explosion.

Continuing, AR-RA'Y says: What draws the attention is that these signs have piled up bit by bit with the approach of a specific date for the resumption of the autonomy talks among the Camp David partners. This insinuates that it is most likely that Israel will carry out a large-scale aggression against southern Lebanon during the resumption of the talks for the following reasons:

1. Israel believes that such an operation would terrorize the area and constitute a pressure on Lebanon and those standing fast in the face of the Camp David march toward terrorism and intimidation.

2. Menahem Begin has a flaming desire to deprive the PLO of the tremendous morale it had when Israel was compelled to accept a cease-fire in southern Lebanon. This made it evident to the world that the PLO is a genuine partner that can never be ignored in any peace process in the area. This was considered by many Israelis to be a defeat for Begin and a realistic recognition of the PLO.

3. The U.S.-Israeli strategic alliance was used as a touchstone at an early date to ensure that the use of U.S. weapons in offensive operations becomes something that Washington approves overtly, not to be effected by mere criticism, as was the previous case.

Thus, we can say that the Sidon explosion is part of the process for preparing the scenario for events to which Israel is seeking to drag the area. It is incumbent upon the Arabs to take this secenario into consideration seriously and to thwart it with full strength.

MEETINGS WITH PALESTINIANS BEGIN IN AMMAN

16 Sep Meetings

JN161907 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 16 Sep 81

[Text] The Jordanian-Palestinian Joint Committee for Bolstering the Steadfastness of the Palestinian People in the Occupied Homeland held two meetings today, one this morning and one this evening. The committee members discussed the items listed on the working agenda, which includes several issues related to bolstering various sectors of development, economy, agriculture and health, as well as different types of services through the municipal and rural councils, cooperative societies and other national organizations and institutions within the framework of the allocations appropriated in the year's aid budget which had been previously approved by the committee at former meetings.

The Jordanian side, headed by Hasan Ibrahim, minister of occupied land affairs, also included Sulayman 'Arar, minister of interior; engineer 'Ali as-Suhaymat, minister of transport and minister of of state of prime minister's affairs; and Shawkat Mahmud, under secretary of the Ministry of Occupied Land Affairs.

The Palestinian side was headed by Hamid Abu Sittah, PLO Executive Committee member and chief of the Occupied Homeland Department. The other members were Khalil al-Wazir, 'Abd ar-Rahim Ahmad, Dr Hanna Nasir and Hani al-Hasan.

The committee will continue its meetings in Amman to study the items on the agenda.

17 Sep Meetings

JN171456 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 17 Sep 81

[Excerpt] Amman, 17 Sep (PETRA)--The Jordanian-Palestinian Joint Committee for Bolstering the Steadfastness of the Palestinian People in the Occupied Homeland resumed its meeting here this morning. It decided to establish a national welfare fund in the occupied land to aid employees and workers who are facing persecution and living in difficult conditions while confronting Zionist occupation. It also decided to form a special subcommittee to make the final arrangements for the allocation of the required funds so that the national welfare fund could assume its responsibilities.

FATAH COLONEL KILLED IN 17 SEP SIDON EXPLOSION

NC171802 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 17 Sep 81

[Excerpt] The number of dead in Sidon has risen to 25, and some reports say more. The known names of some of those killed are Latif al-Maysi, Khadr al-Myasi, Sahar Hammad, Samah Ramadan and Col Muhammad Abu al-Hadi from Fatah. It was impossible to identify some of the bodies because they were so mutilated. Around 70 were wounded in the explosion.

BOMB KILLS 2, INJURES OTHERS IN AS-SULLUM AREA

NC180914 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 18 Sep 81

[Text] It appears that terrorism has returned to the country for reasons which are known to everybody.

In the wake of yesterday's bomb explosions in Sidon and Shikka an official security source has reported that a bomb placed in a private car parked in the As-Sullum area in the southern suburb exploded this morning, killing two persons and injuring several others.

13 TANKS FROM FRANCE ARRIVE AT BEIRUT HARBOR

NC161801 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 16 Sep 81

[Text] The French Government has given the Lebanese Army 13 AMX-13 tanks with spare parts and ammunition. This new arms consignment arrived at Beirut harbor today, where Army Commander Gen Victor Khuri, Deputy Chief of Staff Brigadier General Sha'ban and other officers received the tanks from the French charge d'affaires, who was accompanied by the French military attache in Beirut.

General Khuri thanked the French charge d'affaires for the French Government's initiative in equipping the Lebanese Army and its training of Lebanese troops in French military institutes.

PALESTINIAN TANKS MOVED FROM BEIRUT TO SOUTH

PM170901 Beirut AN-NAHAR in Arabic 12 Sep 81 p 5

[Unattributed report: "The Resistance Moves Tank Battalion From Beirut to the South"]

[Text] An official Palestinian source has announced that the amphibious tanks that were guarding the shores from Al-Hammam al-'Askari to Al-'Awza'i [in Beirut] were yesterday moved from their positions in Beirut to the south in implementation of the orders issued by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat.

The battalion, which consists of tanks and trucks, assembled near the sports city under the supervision of Abu at-Tayyib, in charge of the "17 Forces" in the Fatah movement. Afterwards, Capt Ziyad al-Hammuri handed over the battalion to Capt Abu Iskandar, who drove with it to the south at about 1430.

This was the second battalion of the resistance forces to withdraw from Beirut to the south following the withdrawal of the heavy artillery battalion which was moved a few weeks ago.

ATH-THAWRAH SAYS U.S. CONFRONTING ABABS

JN180801 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 18 Sep 81

[From the press review]

[Text] In a commentary entitled "The Impending Danger and the Obligatory Confrontation," ATH-THAWRAH asserts that the strategic agreement signed by Reagan's administration with the Zionist enemy has divested the United States of all the delusive cards it has played every now and then. This agreement also exposed the crux of its policy; namely, giving unlimited aid to Israel and going along with it all the way.

This great and significant truth--which President Hafiz al-Asad referred to in the course of his speech during the ceremony honoring the Libyan struggler 'Umar al-Mukhtar--constitutes in itself a practical reply to all the White House officials' allegations with regard to their declared and secret stands on the Arab-Israeli conflict.

In accordance with this grave agreement, the United States has moved to a position of direct confrontation with the Arab nation and created the biggest and hottest contact lines in the international arena, with all the threats that such an act purports.

ATH-THAWRAH adds: In accordance with this agreement, the United States will be carrying out a direct attack on the Arabs and transforming Israel into a strategic arsenal in the region, an arsenal serving strategic U.S. interests and striking at the Arab liberation movement and its forces, which remain steadfast in the face of the plot.

This simply means that the talk about neutralizing the U.S. stand on the Middle East has finally been nullified, particularly since President Reagan has settled the matter once and for all, thus making it impossible to even contemplate the issue of so-called U.S. neutrality.

The paper asks: What can be done in the face of such a grave U.S. challenge forcefully imposed on the Arabs? The paper says: President Hafiz al-Asad himself answered this question when he asserted yesterday that Syria and the Arab nation will defend their dignity, fate and future, adding that they will not be short of the means for self-defense and confronting hostile schemes.

For Syria the matter has already been settled. Indeed, it is continuously acting on the premise that the confrontation with the Zionist and imperialist forces will not stop at all. Thus, it is today seeking new alternatives in order to deepen the meanings of such a confrontation and move the Arab stand to the deterrent position that is completely parallel to the U.S. position. All the Arabs must take part in such an action, since the impending U.S.-Zionist danger is coming from all directions and threatens everyone.

BRIEFS

SFRY, PAKISTANI AMBASSADORS--Damascus, 17 Sep (SANA)--Prime Minister 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm received here respectively today Yugoslav Ambassador in Damascus Dimitar Janevski and Pakistani Ambassador in Damascus Sarfaraz Khan, who called to bid him farewell at the end of their term in office in Syria. [Text] [Damascus SANA in Arabic 1610 GMT 17 Sep 81 JN]

DAVAR: BEGIN DECLINING TO MAKE PUBLIC STATEMENTS

TA180737 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 18 Sep 81 p 1

[Report by political correspondent Daniyel Bloch]

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin has been abstaining from making public declarations on the AWACS issue and the strategic cooperation with the United States in order not to anger and embarrass the Reagan administration.

This is why a special cabinet session to review the results of the U.S. visit was not held yesterday. The plan to conduct a special Knesset session in which the prime minister would have delivered an announcement about his talks with President Reagan was cancelled.

It seems that Jerusalem has cut its "blabber" as a result of the harsh talk between U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig and Prime Minister Menahem Begin at Kennedy Airport. The prime minister wants to avoid a situation whereby the Israeli Government would be accused of aborting the AWACS deal were it not approved.

The prime minister will have no other choice but to brief the Cabinet in its regular session on Sunday. However, he will deliver the report within the ministerial Committee on Security Affairs and he will ask the ministers not to leak its contents.

As things stand now, the Knesset is not expected to convene next week. The alignment faction has not yet initiated a session to discuss a political or any other topic.

DAVAR CRITICAL OF BEGIN ACTIONS ON AWACS SALE

TA171135 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 17 Sep 81 P 2

[U.S. correspondent Yosef Pri'el Commentary: "Begin's 5 'Unnecessary" Days in the United States"]

[Text] Today there is no longer doubt that it would have been preferable for the prime minister to advance his return home by 5 days. The "superfluous" days which followed a successful visit in Washington impaired the visit's achievements.

Begin's schedule during these days included many appearances in New York before the media and at Jewish forums. The dynamics of the developments led Begin to take a more radical stand with regard to the AWACS deal until he managed to arouse the annoyance of the U.S. administration.

During the 2 days of official talks in Washington, Begin employed the only tactics possible. He clarified to administration leaders his intention not to undertake a persuasion campaign against the president himself. The prime minister's spokesman was able to tell Israeli correspondents that day that as far as Israel was concerned, "the AWACS issue was closed." A senior U.S. official, who had briefed the correspondents an hour earlier said that Begin had been given an opportunity to present his case; the president replied and that ended the issue.

Begin adhered to the formula that he cannot interfere in the procedures of the U.S. administration but in his public appearances he deviated from this to the extent of a nearly implicit call on Jews to hinder the deal. Begin did not resist the temptation of rhetoric and with his own tongue spoiled the achievements of his talks with the Reagan administration. Had the prime minister not spoke, the administration could not have complained that the deal had been foiled. Now it is obvious that if it is vetoed, Israel will be the scapegoat for President Reagan's foreign policy failure.

PERES ATTACKS BEGIN'S POLICIES, BEGIN RESPONDS

Begin's Policies, Kreisky Stance

TA171631 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 17 Sep 81

[Text] Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres has criticized the prime minister and his policy saying that Menahem Begin now has one fundamental demand from the public: to applaud him. The Likud's past positions, holding both banks of the Jordan River and defensible borders in the Sinai, have disappeared. Peres said that the prime minister had signed a recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinians, and if Begin were to remain in power, he would bring about the establishment of the infrastructure for a Palestinian state.

The labor party chairman also leveled criticism at Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky saying that the latter had gradually diminished his opposition to the PLO and is currently unopposed to all forms of terror, but only to terror abroad.

Referring to the AWACS deal, Mr Peres said that such an agreement had never existed [sentence as heard] and it adversely affects Israel's needs. The prime minister has said that he will not interfere with U.S. domestic affairs, however, the defense minister has in the past called on the U.S. Jews to demonstrate against the sale of the aircraft. Peres was speaking at the political debate in the Labor Party Center.

Peres' Criticism of Begin

TA172011 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 17 Sep 81

[Excerpt] Criticism over the agreement on strategic cooperation between Israel and the United States was leveled today at a meeting of the Labor Party Center. Knesset members Aba Eban and Mordekhay Gur criticized the prime minister's declarations and claimed that the agreement involved Israel in affairs which are none of its business. Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres rejected the claim that the agreement is a realization of the vision of David Ben Gurion. Our correspondent, Rami Gobernick, brings an excerpt from Peres' remarks:

[Begin Peres videotape] The spokesmen on behalf of the prime minister contend that this is an historical development, that it constitutes a turning point and revisionist exaggerations make their way on to the radio waves and the people become confused. As a result, the Arabs are beginning to close their ranks against something the very existence of which is doubtful; they are appealing to the Soviets and other Arabs. What for? Where has wisdom gone? Where is all this leading?

We will wait and see what it is all about. However, the price that Begin was ready to pay, we are not ready to pay--that is, the price for the AWACS. We have had a permanent understanding with the United States that because we are inferior from a quantitative point of view, it would let us enjoy a qualitative superiorty in modern types of weapons. The issue of the AWACS is unprecedented.

I also want to tell you: I do not know whether we have the money to pay for the AWACS; we are not the saudis. These four or five aircraft--it is a question of some $6 billion. It is the first time that we are faced with such a situation. We really do not want to interfere with U.S. affairs, we should not interfere with U.S. affairs. However, we should not abandon Israel's security needs. [end videotape]

Begin Rejects Peres' Allegations

TA172020 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 17 Sep 81

[Text] The prime minister's office has again rejected Mr Shimon Peres' allegations that in his visit in the United States the prime minister had, as it were, abandoned the struggle against the double arms deal with Saudi Arabia.

The prime minister's office issued an annoucement saying that in spite of all the reports from the United States the Labor Party chairman persists in his attempts--which are bound to fail dramatically, as it phrased it--to mislead the public by means of false allegations. The prime minister's office says that the facts speak for themselves and they will slap Mr Peres and all blasphemers in the face.

POST WANTS KNESSET VOTE ON STRATEGIC COOPERATION

TA170954 Jerusalem POST in English 17 Sep 81 P 10

[Editorial: "Role for the Knesset"]

[Text] The new strategic cooperation relationship between Israel and the U.S. that emerged from Premier Begin's discussions with President Reagan last week, does not amount to a treaty alliance. That assurance was delivered by Mr Begin at an improvised press conference on his return to the country yesterday.

This may come as a relief. A treaty alliance--in the form of a mutual defence pact--is what J William Fulbright, then a U.S. senator, proposed over a decade ago. The senator's main purpose was to keep this country firmly under America's control: Israel would withdraw to the old armistice lines, everywhere, in exchange for a formal U.S. security guarantee. Because that was its main intent, the idea did not recommend itself very much to Jerusalem.

The idea deserved to be turned down for another reason, too: because it would, presumably, have committed Israel to actively assist the U.S. in the pursuit of American goals in the region even if they did not necessarily have a great deal, if anything, in common with Israel's own.

For his own reasons, Mr Begin is a firm believer in the concept of an American-Israeli mutual defence pact. He reiterated his belief yesterday, along with the familiar line about refusing to court American refusal by initiating any official suggestion to this effect. If, on the other hand, the U.S. offered it to Israel, he would recommend acceptance of such a pact to the cabinet.

Why he would do so, Mr Begin has never bothered to explain publicly. Yet the mere announcement of his support for the idea is tantamount to a formal commitment to it on behalf of the entire cabinet, indeed on behalf of the nation as a whole.

The Knesset has never yet challenged the premier on this point, and his assurance that the strategic cooperation deal, such as it is, does not amount to a treaty of alliance, is liable to put parliament to sleep again. There is, however, an argument to be made in favour of casting whatever deal does finally emerge in a formal instrument that will bear the Knesset's considered opinion and ratification.

For the moment there is still a wide disparity between the Israeli and the American views of what that deal might entail. If the Israeli maximalist concept prevails, it would oblige the IDF to take action, at least in the air, beyond the country's borders to protect U.S. interests--even though in the name of the common interest in checking Soviet expansion. This would involve a thorough overhaul of traditional strategic doctrine, and it must not be done by administrative fiat alone.

The Israeli concept may not in the end be acceptable to the Americans, if only because of protests by their Arab friends. But even the severly limited U.S. version raises issues of principle whose resolution cannot be left to executive discretion: For example, the degree of Israeli responsibility for, and entitlement to U.S. military stockpiles to be placed in this country.

In Washington the suggestion has already been made that the new strategic relationship between the two countries, whatever its precise ambit, should be submitted by President Reagan to the Senate as a solemn treaty commitment. Premier Begin should do the same. Israeli law, it is true, does not require parliamentary assent for treaties, but governments, including Mr Begin's, have been bringing important treaties to the Knesset for its ratification. That was the procedure adopted in respect of the Camp David agreements and the peace treaty with Egypt.

Although a deal for strategic cooperation with the U.S. is not the equivalent of a treaty of alliance, it deserves to be aired in public and to undergo Knesset scrutiny before it becomes the law of the land.

NORMALIZATION AGREEMENTS SIGNED WITH EGYPT

TA180733 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 18 Sep 81

[Text] The discussions of the normalization committees lasted all night, and early this morning documents of understanding were signed in the spheres of transportation, communications and tourism. Because of differences of opinion regarding direct flights from Israel to Santa Katerina, no aviation agreement was signed. Israeli sources told our correspondent Eli'ezer Pney-Gil that the difficulties and the protracted nature of the talks were caused by the Egyptians' changing their minds about several points on which agreement had earlier been reached.

The tourism agreement, which was signed just 1 and 1/2 hours ago speaks of joint package tours of Israel and Egypt for European tourists. The Egyptians also expressed readiness to examine the subject of charter flights to the 'Ezyon Airfield, and to exempt tourists landing there, en route to Israel, from passport control checks. It was also agreed that the Tourism Ministry will be able to organize tours of Israel at reduced rates for Egyptian citizens. The Egyptians will consider opening a port for yachts in Sinai.

On the other hand, the Egyptians retracted their agreement to provide visas for Israeli tourists within 24 hours. Israel opposes the new Egyptian position, by which visas would be provided within 3 days. This subject will be discussed again when the minister of tourism visits Egypt, but for the time being the ministry's director-general, Rafi Farber, expressed considerable satisfaction with the agreements reached.

In the transportation sphere, agreement was reached, as had been expected, on the principle of the establishment of three border checkpoints; at Rafah, Nizzanim and Elat, and on the granting of multientry visas for truck drivers.

HADDAD REPORTEDLY RECRUITING 'MERCENARIES'

TA171111 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 17 Sep 81 p 2

[Report by Correspondent in Britain, Yosi Melman]

[Text] London, 16 Sep (exclusive)--Maj Sa'd Haddad's southern Lebanese militia has been recruiting mercenaries from the United States and Europe, with the tacit agreement of Israel. This is disclosed by the British weekly, 8 DAYS, published with Arab funds, in tomorrow's issue. (today)

The weekly's correspondent, who had visited Marj 'Uyun, said that he had met a few mercenaries, who occupy the local school, which serves as a military camp. According to the report, there are at least 10 mercenaries among Major Haddad's units. They come from Britain, Canada, the United States and France. Some of them had been mercenaries in Rhodesia and Namibia, they said they had arrived in southern Lebanon through Ben-Gurion Airport and crossed the border through the Good Fence at Metulla.

In response to that report, the IDF spokesman told the weekly's reporter that Israel is not involved in the matter. "They may have crossed the border without the Israeli authorities having been aware of that," the spokesman added.

The mercenaries said they are awaiting impatiently the end of the cease-fire between Israel and the Palestinians "in order to fight." Some of them said they had volunteered to serve in Haddad's militia after they had seen want-ads in newspapers and saw commercials on television. The advertisements gave a reply address in Metulla.

EYTAN DISCUSSES TERRORISTS CEASE-FIRE ACTIVITES

TA171207 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 17 Sep 81

[From the midday newsreel]

[Text] Since the cease-fire became effective the terrorists have violated it 18 times, wounded four inhabitants of Major Haddad's enclave and killed a resident of Dibbin. The terrorists have been using the cease-fire to ready themselves for hostile activities against Israel. The leader of the Popular Front, Ahmad Jibril, has said terrorists have no right to exist unless they operate against Israel, despite the terrorists' use of the cease-fire to rejuvenate themselves and reinforce their footholds, Chief of Staff Refa'el Eytan told our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal, the cease-fire in the north is worthwhile.

[Begin Eytan recording] When the cease-fire went into effect, at the behest--no the plea--of the terrorists, they were on the verge of collapse. Israel agreed to a cease-fire, assuming that it would be beneficial to us as well. We are not interested in exchanges of fire. Now the terrorists are reorganizing. They are not turning wheels back, but are simply reorganizing, in a similar way to what they had, but perhaps with some more arms. In my opinion, they have deep fears, lack high morale. Anyone who tried to portray them as victors at the end of the exchange of fire in July is either blind or viscious; as you described it, their infrastructure was destroyed. Their camps were shattered, and their roads and bridges rendered useless. They were on the verge of collapse, and requested or begged for a cease-fire. I assure their organizing will not bring them to a situation in which they would be able to contest us as in the past. I think that the more they establish themselves, the more they become an easier target for us in being more concentrated. They have no means to confront us, and we should also bear in mind that we have not yet exhausted all the means we have. [end recording]

Those are the chief of staff's remarks 6 weeks after the cease-fire in the north went into effect.

CLARIFICATION OF PLO AIDE'S U.S. VISIT REQUESTED

TA171001 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 17 Sep 81 p 2

[Report by U.S. correspondent Gid'on Samet]

[Text] The Israeli Embassy today asked the State Department for a clarification on the granting of an entry visa to the PLO spokesman, Mahmud Labadi. In addition to the reason provided yesterday for giving him the permit (a family visit to an ailing relative), It has been learned that Mr Labadi will attend the annual conference of the fund raising campaign for the Palestinian people, held in Washington.

BURG MEETS LEWIS ON AUTONOMY TALKS

TA171251 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 17 Sep 81

[Text] Israel's chief autonomy negotiator, Dr Yosef Burg, met this morning with U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis in what was termed an informal meeting as part of a preliminary round of talks on autonomy. Also in Jerusalem, a senior American official, Wat Cluverius, met with Egypt's Tahir Shash, currently leading Egypt's delegation to the normalization talks. Cluverius will meet this afternoon with Israeli officials. Working groups from Israel, Egypt and the United States are to meet on Sunday in Jerusalem to prepare the agenda for ministerial level autonomy talks later next week.

AUTONOMY TALKS TO FOCUS ON 'GENERAL PRINCIPLES'

TA171952 Jerusalem Domestic Television service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 17 Sep 81

[Text] A new tendency is emerging in the autonomy talks which will resume next week in Cairo. An attempt is expected to return to a general declaration of principles rather than continue the argument on the specifics of the structure of the autonomy. This has been learned by our correspondent, Yisra'el Segal, who notes that in the wake of the meeting on the autonomy issue held in Washington, a tendency has emerged, Egypt also agrees to it, not to resume the talks from the point where they had been suspended by President as-Sadat but rather to return to the original idea of formulating a declaration of principles. This notion was raised by Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon.

The chairman of the ministerial committee on autonomy affairs, Dr Yosef Burg, today conferred with the Egyptian and U.S. ambassadors in Israel and discussed the timetable for the autonomy talks.

W. BANK INSTITUTIONS REJECT AUTONOMY EFFORTS

TA171835 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1815 GMT 17 Sep 81

[Text] Nabulus, 17 Sep--The public institutions in Judaea and Samaria today published an announcement in which they reject the renewed attempts to realize the autonomy plan in the territories.

The announcement signed by the municipalities, trade unions, charity and women's organizations states: "The parties to the Camp David Accords, the United States, Egypt and Israel, have recently launched an energetic campaign to implement the autonomy plan in the occupied Arab lands, their purpose being to annihilate the problem of the Palestinian people and to divest it of its rights. This campaign comes at a time when international support for the Palestinian people led by the PLO is constantly rising."

The ITIM correspondent in Judaea and Samaria notes that political announcements have been published frequently lately by those public institutions which assumed the duties of the National Guidance Committee that dispersed in the wake of the murderious attack near the Hadassah building and the deportation of the mayors of the Hebron hills area.

ENTENTE COUNCIL HEADS OF STATE MEET 17 SEP

AB172042 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 17 Sep 81

[Excerpt] The heads of state of the five member states of the Entente Council met today in Yamoussoukro, President Houphouet-Boigny's hometown. The five heads of state--Presidents Kountche of Niger, Kerekou of Benin, Eyadema of Togo, Zerbo of Upper Volta and Houphouet-Boigny of the Ivory Coast--mainly discussed the preparation for the next Entente Council summit to be held in Ouagadougou at a date yet to be agreed upon. This meeting has also enabled the current chairman of the council, President Saye Zerbo, who has recently come to power, to know his counterparts better.

The burning African problems of today--the Gambia, Chad, the CAR, Angola and Western Sahara--were raised by the five heads of state of the oldest African institution. Economic questions, at this time when the world, especially Africa, is badly hit by the economic recession, were also on the agenda of the Yamoussoukro meeting. To this end, the Entente Council heads of state analyzed the results of the recent UN conference on the least developed countries as well as the prospects for the Cancun summit to which one of them--the oldest in age--is going in the person of President Houphouet-Boigny.

INTERNATIONAL BANKS SET ASIDE FUNDS FOR ECOWAS

AB161551 Lagos NAN in English 1537 GMT 16 Sep 81

[Text] Lagos, 16 Sep (NAN)--Seven international commercial banks have set aside credit facilities and grants worth $104.7 million (about N73.29 million) to the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), an annual report of the community has revealed.

The banks include Morgan Grenfell (London), Credit Bank of Brussels, Skandinavika Euskilda Batiken, Hamburg Africa Bank of Western Germany, European Development Fund (EDF), the African Development Bank (ADB), and BIAO [Banque Internationale de l'Afrique Occidental] (Paris).

The report said that the financial institutions indicated the extent of financial commitments they were prepared to make towards the funding of ECOWAS programmes, with particular reference to telecommunications projects, at a meeting of the funding agencies held in Freetown on May 20 this year.

It said that invitations to tender for the supply of equipment and the construction of technical buildings would be undertaken during the second half of this year.

According to the report, contract agreement for the installation of telecommunications equipment will be signed in May or June 1982.

## ALGERIA

### PLO'S 'ARAFAT MAKES STATEMENT ON DEPARTURE

LD151932 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 15 Sep 81

[Text] The talks I had this morning with President Chadli Bendjedid concerned the dangerous situation of the Palestinian revolution and the situation in Lebanon. This statement was given by PLO Chairman Mr Yasir 'Arafat, at Houari Boumedienne Airport as he was leaving our country. The chairman of the PLO Executive Committee was seen off by Mr Messaadia, member of the Political Bureau, and head of the Central Committee Permanent Secretariat, and other figures.

Continuing his statement, the Palestinian leader said that President Chadli Bendjedid confirmed the unchanging stance of Algeria and its support for the Palestinian people and their inalienable national rights, including that of the creation of their own Palestinian state with Al-Quds as the capital. With regard to the challenges of the imperialist and Zionist plans which the Arab nation faces, Mr 'Arafat stressed the need to take a firm and unified Arab stand and to intensify efforts to stand up to these serious challenges.

## LIBYA

### PDRY LEADER ARRIVES, ISSUES STATEMENT 15 SEP

LD161252 Tripoli JANA in Arabia 0700 GMT 16 Sep 81

[Excerpts] Benghazi, 16 Sep (JANA)--The secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium and prime minister of the PDRY, 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, arrived in Beninah Airport yesterday evening on a visit to Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad made a statement to a JANA correspondent at Beninah Airport in Benghazi:

He expressed his pleasure at visiting Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah which is in the framework of the intensive communications between the brothers to examine the latest developments resulting from the critical aggressive escalation by imperialism, Zionism and reaction, which is aimed at hitting the progressive and patriotic forces and weakening their steadfastness, and restoring imperialist domination of the destinies of our Arab nation.

Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad stressed the necessity of supporting the struggle of the Arab peoples at this critical stage in which the scope of aggressive tendencies and of the U.S. imperialist and Zionist conspiratorial plans are widening. This is embodied in the continued occupation of Arab territories and repeated attacks on Beirut and southern Lebanon by the Zionists with the aim of liquidating the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese national movement, and also in the insistence on implementing the Camp David conspiracies, and in increasing the U.S. imperialist military presence in Egypt, Sudan and Oman, the most critical results of which were the provocative maneuvers near the PDRY and Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah borders and the treacherous attack on the two Libyan aircraft inside Libyan Arab territorial skies and waters.

Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad also pointed to the cooperation and friendship alliance between Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, the PDRY and Ethiopia and said that it forms a good starting point for closing the ranks of the progressive and patriotic forces in the Arab homeland and Africa and for enhancing the dynamism of their struggle against imperialism and its supporters.

## SUDAN

### EGYPTIAN OFFICER ON DOWNING OF LIBYAN PLANE

NC171405 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1320 GMT 17 Sep 81

[Text] Khartoum, 17 Sep (MENA)--Chief of Staff of the Egyptian Armed Forces Lt Gen 'Abd Rab an-Nabi Hafiz has commended the measures which the Sudanese Army has taken to safeguard Sudan's security and border, affirming that there is nothing that calls for concern in this sphere. He also lauded the high combat efficiency of the Sudanese Armed Forces.

In a statement to MENA today, Lieutenant General Hafiz, who is currently visiting Sudan, explained that the Sudanese Armed Forces are on standby and alert to defend Sudanese territory against any foreign aggression. He referred in this connection to the downing of the Libyan plane which violated Sudanese airspace the day before yesterday. One of the Libyan pilots was killed and the other was taken prisoner by the Hissein Habre Chadian forces which are fighting the Libyan occupation.

Answering a question on the outcome of his current visit to Sudan, Lieutenant General Hafiz said that the talks with the Sudanese side were fruitful and that agreement was reached on all the items on the agenda. He added that he visited the Ad-Damazin and Ar-Rusayris areas and inspected the military units there.

Answering a question on the date of the next meeting of the joint Egyptian-Sudanese military staff, the Egyptian chief of staff said that the two sides continuously exchange visits and that the next meeting will be held in Cairo in accordance with the Egyptian-Sudanese joint defense pact, which calls for holding alternating meetings in Cairo and Khartoum.

The Egyptian chief of staff is expected to leave Khartoum for Cairo later today following a 4-day visit to Sudan during which he attended the meeting of the Egyptian-Sudanese joint military staff.

### Aircraft Photographs Published

AB171647 Paris AFP in French 1628 GMT 17 Sep 81

[Text] Khartoum, 17 Sep (AFP)--Sudanese dailies today published photographs of the Libyan aircraft shot on Tuesday in the Adre region, 160 km east of Abeche on the Chadian-Sudanese border.

One of the photographs taken and distributed by the SUDANESE NEWS AGENCY (SUNA), shows the body of one of the two members of the crew killed in the incident.

According to SUNA, citing witnesses, the Italian-made aircraft was hit twice: once by the Sudanese anti-aircraft defense system over the Sudanese town of Gineina and a second time by Hissein Habre's Northern Armed Forces over the locality of Adre.

## LIBERIA

### CONSTITUTION DRAFTING COMMISSION OPENS OFFICE

AB161852 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1755 GMT 16 Sep 81

[Text] The chairman of the National Constitution Commission, Dr Amos Sawyer, has said his commission has undertaken a number of activities related to identifying the issues that are critical in the formation of the draft constitution for the country. In this regard, said Dr Sawyer, his commission has organized six steering committees to carry out its work. The committees include those on social and political issues, on judiciary finance and economy, government review, recommendations hearings and drafting committees.

He said the committees will operate within the framework of their functions as the need suggests. Speaking today at the first conference held at the Unity Conference Center in Virginia, the university professor said his commission has also established a permanent secretariat at the OAU village in Virginia. He said the offices of the commission are located at villas No 16 and 17.

In a further development, the commission's chairman, Dr Sawyer, said the Constitution Commission will have two major tasks to perform leading to the drafting of the new constitution. The first is to inform the entire Liberian public about the meaning of a constitution given the fact that many Liberians do not primarily know what a constitution is all about and what (?it stands for). Secondly, the commission will endeavor to inform the public on the details of the suspended Constitution of Liberia in an effort to acquaint the public with what the old Constitution entails.

### NATION DIVIDED INTO TWO ADMINISTRATIVE SECTIONS

AB171939 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1755 GMT 17 Sep 81

[Text] Liberia has been divided into two administrative sections to be known as brigades--East and North Working Brigades. This is the work of the Ministry of Public Works which said in a publication of the daily OBSERVER newspaper published Thursday, today, that the move was in an attempt to meet the expectations of the Liberian people and at the same time make the ministry's operations meaningful.

The Eastern Brigade will include Grand Gedeh, Maryland and Sinoe Counties, while the Northern Brigade will consist of Nimba, Bong and Loffa Counties. According to the assistant public works minister for operations, Mr Joseph (Saka), the formation of the two brigades was necessary because in the past small public works units based in each of the counties had been used by county officials to carry out projects designed only within or for the counties. He added that even though the small units will remain in the counties, the brigades will serve as a general workable group for more than one county.

Mr (Saka) also disclosed that the headquarters of the Eastern Brigade will be in the Grand Gedeh County and the Northern Brigade will have its base in Bong County. There was nothing said about which brigade such counties as Grand Bassa, Montserrado, Cape Mount were under. Minister (Saka) added that all necessary equipment for the Brigades are now available in the counties.

### ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER APPOINTED 17 SEP

AB180900 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0625 GMT 18 Sep 81

[Text] The Foreign Ministry has announced that Counselor Samuel A. McKintosh, legal counselor of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, has been appointed acting foreign minister effective yesterday, September 17.

Counselor McKintosh's appointment came after Deputy Foreign Minister for Administration E. Sumo Jones was acting as foreign minister until Wednesday when he was appointed minister of commerce, industry and transportation by the head of state, Commander in Chief Samuel Doe. Counselor McKintosh will serve as acting foreign minister pending the return of Foreign Minister G. Bacchus Matthews and/or Deputy Foreign Minister Christopher Minikon, both of whom are out of the country on official business.

## NIGERIA

### AIR FORCE TAKES DELIVERY OF FOUR ALPHA JETS

AB171580 Lagos NAN in English 1437 GMT 17 Sep 81

[Excerpt] Kano, 17 Sep (NAN)--The minister of defence, Alhaji Akanbi Oniyangi, yesterday in Kano received four of the twelve Alpha jets purchased by the Federal Government for the Nigerian Air Force (NAF).

Receiving the first batch of the jets at the air force base, Alhaji Oniyangi said that by purchsing the jets, the Federal Government was fulfilling its obligation and its commitment to having an efficient air force that would take care of the country's air space.

He said that the new jets would replace some of the aircraft now being used for operational, duties, and complement others in the inventory of the air force.

He said that it was the determination of the Federal Government to improve the overall performance of the armed forces and their combat readiness, adding that adequate achievement had been made for the training of Nigerians in the effective operation and maintenance of the jets.

## SENEGAL

### 15 PDS MEMBERS REPORTED ARRESTED OF PAST WEEK

AB171551 Paris AFP in English 1449 GMT 17 Sep 81

[Text] Dakar, 17 Sep (AFP)--Some 15 members of the Senegalese Democratic Party (PDS) have been rounded up by security forces in the last week, a PDS source said here.

Member of Parliament and Party Official Boubacar Sall told AFP that about 10 party officials had been arrested in the Tambacunda (east), Diourbel (north central) and the northern fleuve (river) regions of the West African state.

The arrests followed those of five supporters and aides of PDS Secretary-General Abdoulaye Wade.

Mr Sall said the operations were aprt of a hunt for arms. Gendarmes had searched Mr Wade's home and also that of another PDS leader, Alassane Sissoko. Mr Wade is currently in France.

No official explanation has been given for the operations against the left-leaning PDS, which has 14 seats in Parliament. The Assembly is controlled by the party of President Abdou Diouf.

## ANGOLA

### FOREIGN MINISTER CHISSANO INTERVIEWED IN BRAZIL

For the text of Foreign Minister Chissano's interview published in JORNAL DO BRASIL's 14 September issue, refer to the Brazil section of the 18 September Latin America DAILY REPORT, pages D 5-6.

## LESOTHO

### MINISTER SAYS GUERRILLA LEADER IN SOUTH AFRICA

AB180810 Paris AFP in English 0741 GMT 18 Sep 81

[Text] Johannesburg, 18 Sep (AFP)--The leader of the Lesothan Liberation Army, Ntsu Mokhele, is in South Africa where the authorities are helping him to make guerrilla attacks on Lesotho, Lesothan Information Minister Charles Molapo told the Johannesburg STAR in an interview published Thursday.

Mr Molapo said that despite the current wave of bombings in the mountainous kingdom entirely surrounded by South Africa, Lesotho would continue to give aid and shelter to opponents of South Africa's apartheid policies.

Six bomb blasts have occurred in Lesotho over the past three weeks. Targets have included a fuel storage tank and the national airport. The government of Prime Minister Chief Leabua Jonathan has accused the opposition Basotho Congress Party and its military wing the Lesotho Liberation Army, of trying to overthrow it.

## SOUTH AFRICA

### RED CROSS VISITS DETAINED SOVIET SOLDIER

CA171140 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 16 Sep 81

[Text] The Soviet warrant officer who was captured by South African security forces during Operation Protea in southern Angola recently, Sgt Maj Nikolay Pestretsov of the Red Army; has been visited in South Africa by an official of the International Red Cross. A Red Cross spokesman in Geneva said a report on the visit has been handed to the Soviet Embassy in Luanda. The report contains particulars of the conditions of Pestretsov's internment.

### PIK BOTHA ON CONFRONTATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

LD172148 Johannesburg International Service in English 2100 GMT 17 Sep 81

[Text] The South African minister of foreign affairs, Mr Roelof Botha, says a decision is needed by the leaders of southern Africa to stop the pendulum swinging towards confrontation in the region and to swing the pendulum back towards constructive cooperation. Speaking in Parliament in Cape Town, Mr Botha said the South African Government was ready to reach decisions. He said that stalemate had been reached because South Africa had become too powerful to be destroyed by conventional means and unless a decision was taken soon by southern African countries the drift towards confrontation would be invitable.

Mr Botha said a link between South Africa and Nigeria could act as a bulwark against foreign intervention in Africa. The two countries could complement each other as Nigeria had the raw materials which South Africa needed and South Africa could provide Nigeria with the resources and technology. Mr Botha said he believed such an alliance could be formed if Nigeria adopted a more realistic attitude and if South Africa made certain adjustments.

Referring to South-West Africa/Namibia, Mr Botha said that nothing had happened to make it impossible to resolve the outstanding problems (?of reaching) an internationally acceptable solution. He warned, however, that the Cuban presence in Angola did increase the tension and made it much more difficult for talks to go ahead.